Girl COMICS
夢幻・愛情
倉沢木多
Mota Kurasawa
VOL. 3
天空色
學園廣場
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Mirita likes the elder brother of the Shukan twins, Kaise, but Nomura, the younger brother likes her. The relationship between Mirita and the brothers have become a love chain~ (?) Mirita decided to break out of the current awkward situation and confessed to Kaise, but was rejected by him. Will Mirita's feelings be accepted? The heart-pounding last volume!!

^Translator's note- Nomura ⟶ Mirita ⟶ Kaise (arrows symbolize love)

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Blue Sky Playground ③

Mota Kurasawa

PLEASE READ [BLUE SKY PLAYGROUND] 1 AND 2 FOR A MORE DETAILED STORYLINE HIGHLY ACCLAIMED

Summary

Mirita, a freshman, suffers from cryophobia (a fear of cold). One winter day, she accidentally discovers her most beloved kotatsu (a table that keeps one warm) in the school! Because of the kotatsu, Mirita was acquainted with two of the most popular and handsome twin brothers at school, the Shukan brothers. In exchange for the right to go inside the room, the Shukan younger brother, Nomura, requested for Mirita to kiss his brother Kaise. Afterwards, Mirita slowly began to fall in love with Kaise. But Nomura actually confessed to her! Mirita didn't know how she should react to Nomura's confession, so she treated it as one of his jokes. However, Mirita's attitude towards the confession hurt Nomura's feelings... Mirita knew she should make things clear, and she decided to confess to Kaise... However, Kaise told her "I don't like you'..?

Blue Sky
Playground
3
Mota Kurasawa

THANK YOU EVERYONE! IT'S ALREADY THE LAST VOLUME!!

Hi everyone— Hi everyone— Hi everyone~~! I am Mota Kurasawa! Wah~ Another volume published~ I am really happy!

Let us continue with the section in Volume 2! The title is...

Has

MOTA KURASAWA'S MANGA IMPROVED?! Section

Although this plan seems to be satisfying myself only— But, there are only 2 other resolves left unchecked! Just let me continue with this~ Failing heart

Resolve #4 [THE DRAWING OF THE CHARACTERS HAS TO IMPROVE!] ➡ Checked

—It is very—terrible. I haven't been practicing drawing of the characters all this while— the reason being the lack of time—actually is the truth. However, if I use not having enough time as an excuse for everything—then I won't need to do anything already. Besides, I also spend a lot of time watching television— So, there is simply no reason to say that I don't have enough time to practice drawing— Very regrettable.

So, my self-discipline is telling me [X] x x! ^^;

Hurry up and think of a way to prove it!

Resolve #5 [BACKGROUND SCENES...?] ➡ Checked

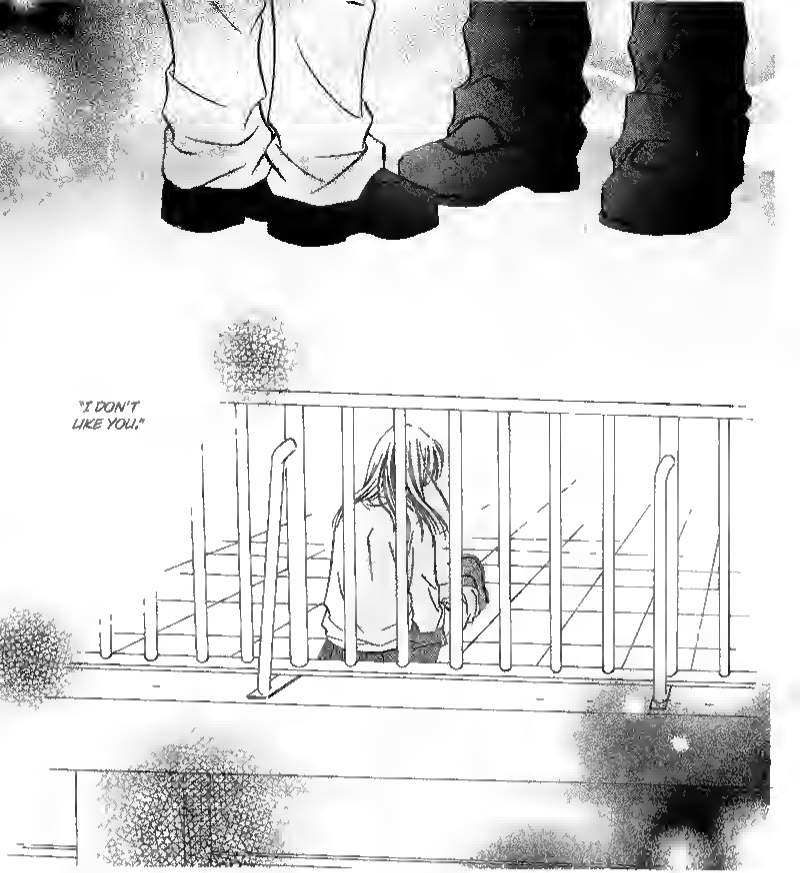
I hate drawing background scenes, this is something everyone knows. But recently, I don't hate it as much... In fact, I am beginning to like it! Such a drastic change (at least for me)! I am really glad. But, I have only 'begun to like it'... In terms of skills, there hasn't been any marked improvement... Ha ha ha. Even up till now, I still can't figure out how to draw using perspective drawing... (Can I still be considered a professional mangaka...?) If I can have a holiday for one month, I really hope I can think of a good way to improve my background drawing skills... Someday (Which day exactly?) when I take a break, I will work hard to improve...

Triangle

So [△] there is still a little hope...

Back to the topic, this section has been continued since [Onna no Kotte Honto ni Mou]... If I don't keep on reflecting myself from time to time, I will immediately become lazy again. I totally have no trust in myself... Therefore, I will continue to work hard.

(A puzzling ending)

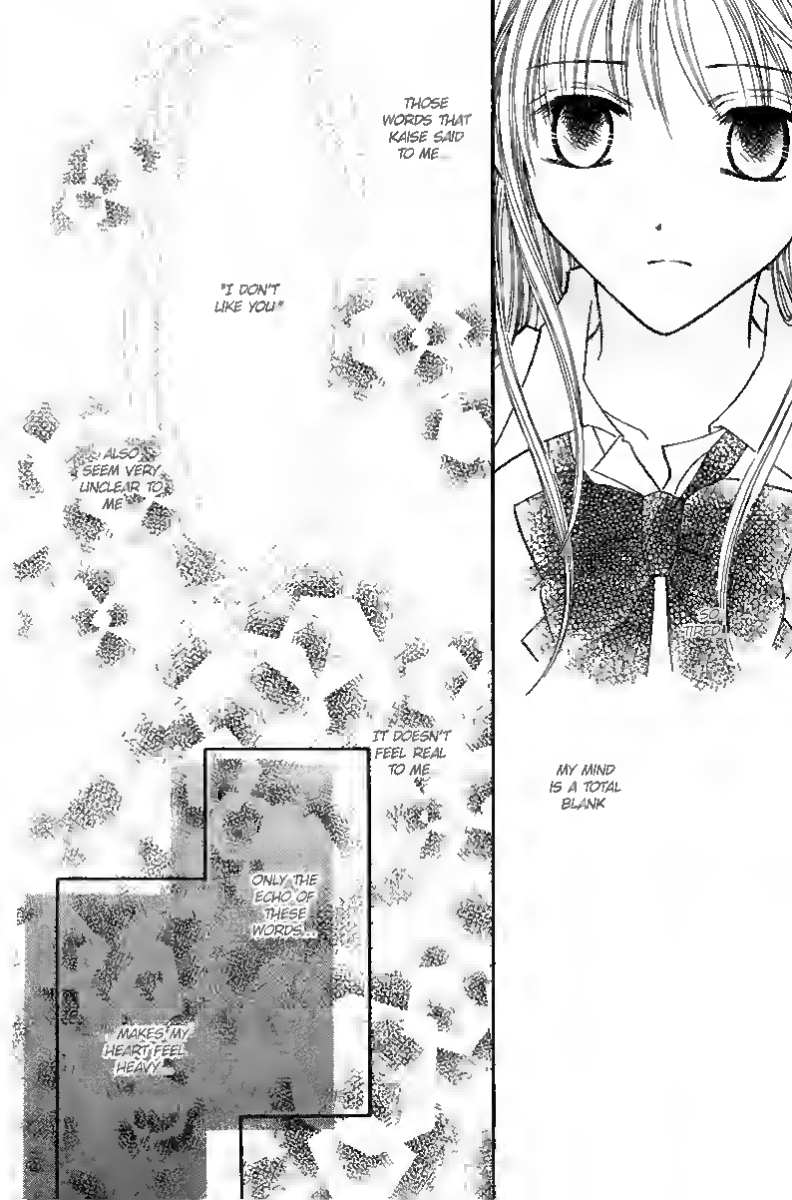


Note 2 I WANT TO BECOME A MANGAKA!! ... I often receive letters from readers expressing such feelings. I can confidently tell everyone, the job of a mangaka is really wonderful! But, it might not be as suitable for people who wish to have a stable (financial) lifestyle. People who dare to take risks, love drawing and thinking of story plots as well as active self-improvement (+ a bit passive), can try going down the path of a mangaka! This job is quite suitable for financially poorer people (like me). So long as you have paper, pencil, ink, a story plot, a set square... in addition to another 5000 dollars, you can start to work already. But by "work", it only refers to the work you do after you become a professional mangaka. So this section is only to explain to everyone "what you must do to become a mangaka..." I think I shall discuss this with everyone slowly and lazily (!! How can you be like this?!)

(Continued in 2)

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? LET'S EAT LUNCH TOGETHER!
SEE! I EVEN PREPARED YOUR BENTO!
Come and eat your lunch!
Yamada, you're really ingenious dive
YAMADA,
LEAVE THAT BENTO FOR YOURSELF
RATTLE
EH...
SHU... SHUKAN?
AH!
SHUKAN!
Chatter
Chatter

NOW?
IF I GO BACK TO THE CLASSROOM,
"WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU? WHERE DID YOU GO JUST NOW?"
TANTAN WILL MOST LIKELY QUESTION ME.
SOMEHOW, I DON'T FEEL LIKE TALKING AT ALL!!


THOSE WORDS THAT KAISE SAID TO ME...
"I DON'T LIKE YOU"
ALSO SEEM VERY UNCLEAR TO ME
IT DOESN'T FEEL REAL TO ME
ONLY THE ECHO OF THESE WORDS...
MAKES MY HEART FEEL HEAVY
MY MIND IS A TOTAL BLANK

TO NIRITA
I THINK I AM HAVING A SLIGHT FEVER, SO I ASKED FOR AN EARLY DISMISSAL
SO SORRY!
TANTAN
I SEE..
WILL SHE BE OK..?
TAP
Thump
AH..
Return to your seats and sit down

EVER SINCE THIS MORNING...
I HAVEN'T SPOKEN TO HIM A SINGLE TIME...
.....
PLOP
NOWLIRA.
SIGH
.....

TEACHER,
I WANT TO CHANGE MY SEATING ARRANGEMENT!
NOMURA HAS SAID
Yeah, I already said I wanted to change seats
Chatter
Huh But I liked the current seating arrangement
Chatter
"ARE YOU SURE THAT I CANNOT HAVE ANY DEEP FEELING OF LOVE TOWARDS ANYONE ?"
HE MUST BE VERY ANGRY
... IN THE END

THE NEXT DAY,
WITH THE NEW SEATING ARRANGEMENT
How? I am very interesting, aren't I?
GREAT! LET'S USE DRAWING LOTS TO DETERMINE THE NEW SEATING ARRANGEMENT!
No reaction
No reaction
WE WERE
SO FAR AWAY FROM EACH OTHER

1

Hi everyone!
I am Mota Kurashiki.

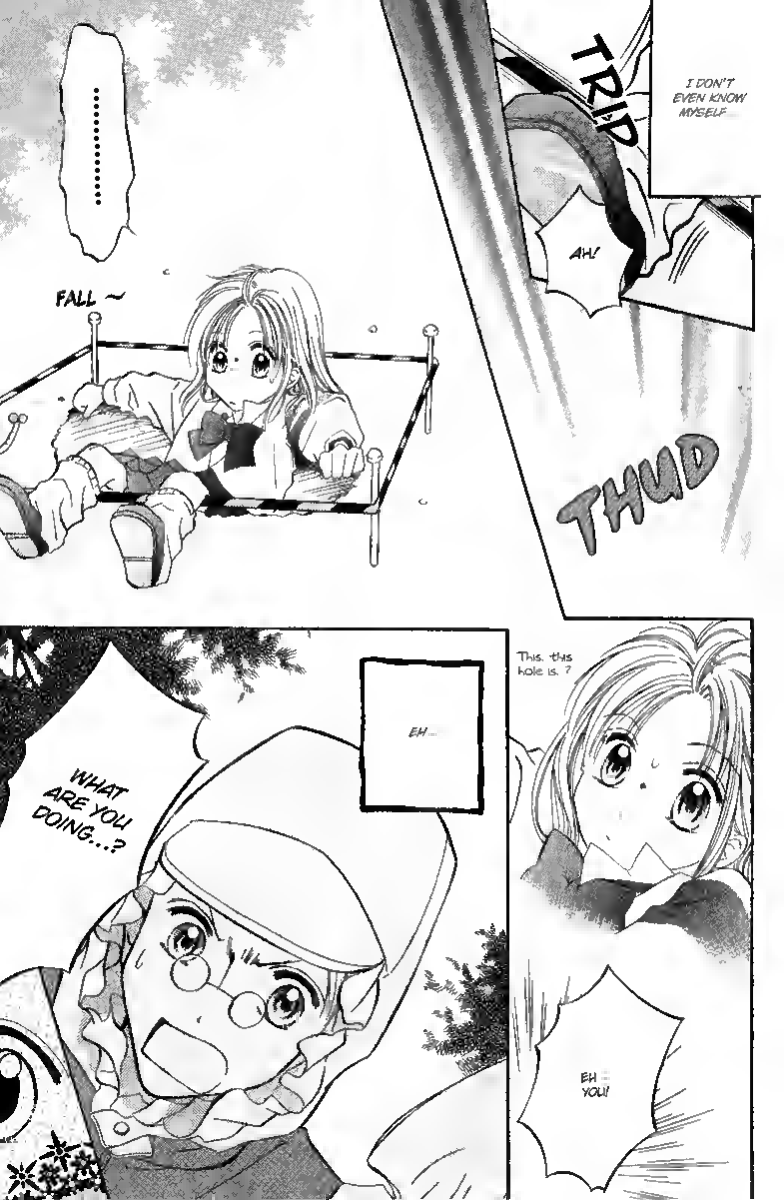
Example panel that have been taken out. There's a bear near the bottom.

It is so fast! Mota finally published her fourth volume edition "Blue Sky Playground Volume 3"! Sometimes I will feel scared... will I stop publishing up till here...? No way! My work is progressing smoothly now, so I hope it can be the same in the future... Ganbatte! I really like to work. It is, of course, very tiring before the deadline, but most of the time I am just humming tunes while drawing! At these times, I will feel very fortunate to be a mangaka... Yeah, that's right! It feels different drawing drafts that will definitely be published! Thanks Heaven, thanks Shueisha* and thanks to all the readers. From the first to the last column space, I will most likely maintain such an atmosphere. It has only just started! Everyone, please enjoy~

IS NOMURA NEVER GOING TO SPEAK TO ME AGAIN...?
Please accept this!
Are you sure that can be eaten?
Yeah.
Kyousuke is not coming today, either?

*Translator's note: Shueisha is a major publishing company in Japan, and is the publisher for this manga.

CHATTER
CHATTER
EH? NOMURA?
Where did he go?
AH, I WANT TO PLAY
MIRITA, LET'S PLAY THIS GAME TOGETHER
EH? SHE'S NOT THERE...
Kyoko is down with flu and didn't come today
CHATTER
CHATTER
OH...
EH? HE IS NOT HERE?
SUMAGAI IS ALSO NOT HERE?
PUFF
FROM THE START I HAVE ALWAYS FELT
Rustle
...THAT BOTH OF THEM SEEMED VERY SUSPICIOUS
HEY,
HEY!
Walking backward
WAH SUCH A BEAUTIFUL SKY...
I DIDN'T TELL ANYONE...
ABOUT KAISE REJECTING MY CONFESSION...
JUST LIKE THE CLOUDS I FEEL LIKE I AM FLOATING ON AIR
IS THIS WHAT THEY CALL SADNESS?


I DON'T EVEN KNOW MYSELF...
TRIP
AH!
THUD
FALL ~
.....
This, this hole is...?
EH...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING...?
EH ☆ YOU!

*Translator's note: Sunbonnet is a wide brimmed bonnet with a flap at the back to protect the neck from the sun.
TAKA TA KAKURA?
Really? Cha!
AH!
Sunbonnet*
THAT HOLE IS NEEDED TO INSTALL THE BRONZE STATUE!
Pickers of the commerce cause
Fish
Chatter
Chatter
AH!
THERE ARE ACTUALLY MANY PEOPLE HERE...
I didn't realize it at all.
BOTH CLASSES ARE DIVIDED INTO TEAMS FROM A TO E AND WE ARE IN CHARGE OF PLUCKING WEEDS!
We are planting trees too!
YOU, STOP PLAYING! COME AND HELP US!
YOU ARE IN TEAM A!
THROW
OKAY
GIRLS!
DON'T JUST HIDE IN SHADY AREAS TO PULL THE WEEDS!
AKAI IS ALL PREPARED, THAT'S WHY...
EH, it is very hot
STOP COMPLAINING! I ALREADY REMINDED EVERYONE TO BRING HATS AND PE* UNIFORM YESTERDAY!
*Takakura Akai
STOP CHASING GRASSHOPPERS!
DON'T BREAK THE TREE BRANCHES!
HEY! THE BOYS OVER THERE!
KYAA
KYAA
*Translator's note: Just in case you don't know, PE stands for Physical Education.
SHE HAS NOT CHANGED A SINGLE BIT
SHE IS REALLY PASSIONATE.
SHUKAN, YOU TOO!
DID YOU FORGET TO BRING YOUR PE UNIFORM?
You are a class administrator, aren't you? You should know!
AH...
SORRY.
I am fully prepared!
KAISE!

I HAVEN'T FELT THIS WAY FOR A LONG TIME...
MY HEART IS SUDDENLY BEATING VERY FAST...
and yet seems as if it's very cool
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
MY MIND WHICH WAS ORIGINALLY IN A TOTAL BLANK
SUDDENLY BECAME CLEAR AGAIN
JUST NOW OUR EYES MET RIGHT...?
PLUCK! HURRY AND PULL WEEDS!
THUMP
Such a strong opponent
ARGH... UGHHHH
Eh!
THE TEACHER SAID HE IS GOING TO TREAT THE FIRST TEAM WHO FINISHES PULLING UP THE WEEDS TO ICE LOLLIES!
Member Number

CONCENTRATE CONCENTRATE! I DEFINITELY CANNOT TURN BACK TO LOOK AT KAISE!
WAH HAH HAH
Even the roots have been pulled out
Oh oh!
KAISE! YOU REALLY HAVE THE TALENT FOR PULLING UP WEEDS!
Huh
THEN LET'S WORK HARDER!
FULL OF VIGOUR!
TEAM A WORKS HARDER!
REJOICING!
AS LONG AS WE HAVE KAISE TEAM A WILL DEFINITELY BE ABLE TO WIN!
AH.. THIS IS HORRIBLE! WE ARE GOING TO LOSE TO TEAM D!
Yay! We are about to finish pulling up the weeds.
the loser
I I HAVE TO HURRY AND WORK HARDER
OH NO.~
PULL PULL PULL
BUT THIS WEED IS REALLY HARD TO PULL OUT~
AH!
WHAT?
THAT WEED
EH, KAISE! GO OVER AND HELP TO PULL THAT WEED UP!
hurry hurry hurry

LA-LA
WHILE WE CARRY OUT OUR SING-ING EXERCISES, WE SHALL ALSO TELL EVERYONE THE GOSSIP IN THE SCHOOL
WE ARE FROM THE RECITATIVE* DRAMA CLUB
EVERY-ONE PLEASE LISTEN!
I am your audience

*Translator's note: Recitative is a style of delivery much used in operas, oratorios, and cantatas, where a singer uses a single melody to tell the story

A FEW DAYS AGO DURING LUNCH PERIOD ..
WHEN WE WERE EATING LUNCH ON THE SCHOOL'S ROOFTOP
AND THEN?
OUR PRINCE, KAISE,
REJECTED SUMAGAI FROM CLASS 2-3

EH!
AI YA AI YA AI YA YA!
TURN
RELAXED
OH... THIS IS SO CRUEL!
BUT WHAT IS SURPRISING IS THAT HE SAID TO SUMAGAI, "I DON'T LIKE YOU"...
EH!
LU-LU-LA
ARIA"
IT IS NOT SURPRISING FOR PRINCE KAISE TO REJECT A CONFESSION...
OH!
"Translator's note: An aria is a jelly contained piece for one voice usually with orchestral accompaniments."
Eek!
CRUMBLE
SWEAT
Menace Menace
YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO CIRCULATE SUCH GOSSIP ANYMORE!
ANGER!!
IF IT IS SPREAD?
Eek
IF THIS GOSSIP IS SPREAD...
...
?!
ANYWAY, I AM JUST ANGRY!
WHY SHOULD I BOTHER SO MUCH ABOUT HER AFFAIRS?!
I DON'T KNOW!

This prince is so scary
Thump
Thump
Thump
Thump
Crush
SIGH
WHAT EXACTLY AM I DOING?!
SERI-OUSLY..
-HH HH

WE PULL TOGETHER AT THE SAME TIME!
READY
OKAY
BY THE TIME I REALIZED, THINGS HAVE ALREADY GONE OUT OF HAND...
Waaah
Waaah
Ice tokyo
Ice tokyo
Trying her best to not reveal her feelings
KAISE ALWAYS SEEMS UNAFFECTED BY PRIVATE AFFAIRS
THUMP
DON'T BE LIKE THIS! DON'T BE LIKE THIS! STOP THINKING ABOUT MY OWN FEELINGS!
1—2!

EVEN...
WE ARE SO CLOSE TO EACH OTHER, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE...
EVEN THOUGH I SAID TO NOT THINK ABOUT MY FEELINGS
Surrounded an Imbalance
IT STILL CANNOT BE PULLED OUT
Pull...
Thump Thump
Thump Thump
After we pull out this weed, we will be able to get the ice lolly
Ice lolly! Ice lolly
1、2!
Pull!
ONE MORE TIME.
IT IS TOO PAINFUL. END IT QUICKLY!
1、2!
IN THE END...
IN THE END
I CANNOT DO IT IN THE END, I STILL...
1——2!
UPROOTED
1、2!

TEAM A WON THE ICE LOLLIES!
IN THE END...
WAAAAH
IN THE END, I STILL LIKE HIM A LOT...
This is great

"I DON'T LIKE YOU."
THERE IS DEFINITELY NO ONE ELSE
KAISE
...
THERE IS DEFINITELY NO OTHER PERSON
WHO WOULD MAKE MY HEART BEAT SO FURIOUSLY WHEN WE ARE SO CLOSE TO EACH OTHER
AH,
SUMIGAI, TAKE ONE ICE LOLLY TOO
EH?

BUMP
WAA AAA AA!
?!
SOB...
WAA AAA AA!
WAA AAA AA!
WHAT...
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?
IT IS ONLY NOW THAT I KNOW.
THE REASON WHY I HAVE NEVER TOLD THIS TO ANYONE
IT'S BECAUSE I AM AFRAID OF FEELING THAT THIS IS REAL

THE PERSON I LIKE IS LIKE THIS.
BUT I AM THE ONE WHO IS TOTALLY REJECTED...
KAISE..
KAISE...!
AH?
THERE... THERE IS SOMEONE LOOKING FOR YOU.
WHO IS LOOKING FOR ME...?

OH, IT IS NOMURA
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
I ALSO WANT AN ICE LOLLY!
BUT YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO PUT UP THE WHEEL
NO! ACTUALLY,
I HAVE SOME-THING...
WHAT?
WOW! BOTH OF THEM ARE TOGETHER
I HAVE SOMETHING TO DISCUSS WITH YOU!
ELDER BROTHER!
Elder...
Elder brother...?
SHIVER~

DISCUSS ABOUT WHAT?
NOMURA.
EVEN THOUGH I LIKE HIM SO MUCH...
I AM UNABLE TO EXPRESS IT...

Blue Sky Playground

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Volume 03 Chapter 15

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Note 2 *I WANT TO BECOME A MANGAKA! ~No need to hurry, relax and calm down~*

About debuting as a mangaka, it seems that most young readers have thoughts like, "If I want to debut I should debut before I turn twenty!", "It is best to become a mangaka while I am still in high school!" Of course, in reality there are a lot of mangaka who debuted when they were still very young. Furthermore, the perspective of young people is more suited for drawing the vibrant and youthful style of shoujo manga. Actually, I am not against all of you debuting while you all are young (the truth is the chances of debuting is higher if you are young), but there are still many people who are older than 20 or 25 years old who become a mangaka. There are a lot of people who don't give up despite being rejected many times. I think, it is necessary to strive on for 3 to 5 years, continue to rise up to the challenge and not give up.

(continued in 3)

"I HAVE SOMETHING TO DISCUSS WITH YOU!!
ELDER BROTHER!"
DISCUSS
SUSPICIOUS
.....
NOMURA,
THE MATTER YOU WANT TO DISCUSS ABOUT...
.....
IS IT MONEY?
To borrow money?
NO!
IN THAT CASE...
If it is not about money, then why would you suddenly become so humble...?
EVEN MORE SUSPICIOUS...
ANGRY
STOP THINKING THAT MY PERSONALITY IS THAT SIMPLE, OK?!

EVEN YOU ARE LIKE THAT...
...JUST LIKE HER
"I DON'T WISH TO SPEAK ABOUT SUCH A SERIOUS TOPIC WITH NOMURA..."
WHY DO YOU ALL TREAT ME LIKE THAT...?
...EH?
WHO ELSE, BUT THE ONE WHOM YOU SAID, "I DON'T LIKE YOU" TO...!

2

Arghhhh... I think the pencil I used to write the notes is too thick... The words must be hard to read, right? So from here onwards, I have changed to a thinner pencil. (From another point of view, words written with a thin pen may be hard to read too...) Firstly, I want to report to everyone about my current situation, actually, there has not been much change, I am just as busy every day. Yeah, and it is great becoming an adult. When I was still a student, I often felt "I am so bored ~ I am going to die of boredom" When I started to publish my manga, it became "I am so busy ~ I am going to die from business". Even though it is like this, I am still doing my work at my own pace. Ha ha. In comparison, the editor-in-charge is so much busier than me. He has not even seen some very famous television advertisement. When I first knew that, I was really shocked. Besides, I still have time to watch television (one hour every two days), and also to listen to radio broadcasts. The conclusion is, from my description of my current situation... all of you probably feel that my life is very relaxed...

...WORDS LIKE "I DON'T LIKE YOU",
IF YOU ARE SAYING THEM TO DECEIVE OTHERS THEN IT IS A HORRIBLE LIE
BUT IF YOU REALLY FEEL THAT WAY DEEP IN YOUR HEART, THEN IT IS RIGHT FOR YOU TO SAY IT OUT TRUTHFULLY.
YOU ARE SO STRONG-WILLED
...EVEN THOUGH I AM REALLY ANGRY WITH THAT GIRL,
IT STILL CANNOT AMOUNT TO "DISLIKE".
SO, I CANNOT DO ANYTHING OTHER THAN FEELING FLIGHTY AND IMPULSIVE

RIGHT.
People who are able to do something he is unable to do
||
@equals
RESPECT
You are so easy to understand
THAT'S WHY YOU CALLED ME "ELDER BROTHER"?
Younger brother you are so cute

NOMURA,
YOU DON'T HAVE TO LOOK FOR SOMEONE TO DISCUSS ABOUT SUCH THING
...YOU SHOULD.
TAKE MORE PROACTIVE ACTIONS, ACCORDING TO YOUR OWN PERSONALITY
CHAPTER
CHAPTER
EH?
A CLUE?

STARE
la~la
The two girls from before are also in the club.
YES! PLEASE JOIN OUR CLUB!
OUR CLUB IS THE RECITATIVE DRAMA CLUB
YESTERDAY, YOU WERE CRYING SO LOUDLY!
Thump
Why are you talking like this early in the morning?
...THIS IS REALLY SUDDEN...
Surprised. What exactly happened to you?
Tremble
Tremble
BUT THAT WAS MY FIRST TIME SEEING SOMEONE AT THIS AGE CRYING TO THAT EXTENT
ANYWAY, YOU ALWAYS GO HOME AFTER SCHOOL SO YOU HAVE TOO MUCH ENERGY LEFT
YOU SHOULD JOIN A CLUB, IN THAT WAY, YOU CAN USE UP ALL YOUR EXCESS ENERGY!
1
2
3
listing
coercion
method
3 points of
contention
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I ASKED YOU, YOU STILL WOULDN'T TELL ME THE REASON!
HOW CAN I SAY IT OUT ? IT DOES NOT EVEN INVOLVE ONLY ME
SINCE YOU DO NOT WANT TO SAY IT, THEN I CANNOT FORCE YOU!
And I can't possibly let Keisei know!
TAKAKURA'S COERCIVE ATTITUDE
FEELS
Depressed
...IT SEEMS LIKE TAKAKURA'S ARGUMENTS ARE RATHER PERSUASIVE
Club activities? Shou-kun?

"GOOD MORNING"
GOOD
AH / ERR
.....
.....
WILL IT BE VERY THICK-SKINNED OF ME TO GREET HIM?
BUT
WE OBVIOUSLY HAD A QUARREL
GOOD..
WALKS AWAY
SO SIMILAR TO NOMURA'S

HIS RECEDING FIGURE... HE IGNORED ME
Good morning.
Quiet, let me copy your homework.
WHO WAS THE ONE WHO SAID THAT THOSE TWO PEOPLE WERE ACTING SUSPICIOUSLY?
THEY ARE NO LONGER FRIENDS?
DID THEY QUARREL?
"TAKE MORE PROACTIVE ACTIONS ACCORDING TO YOUR OWN PERSONALITY"
.....
BUT...
IT IS EVEN MORE SUSPICIOUS WHEN THEY DO NOT SPEAK TO EACH OTHER!
I wonder why they quarreled.
NONSENSE! THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE! HOW IS IT POSSIBLE FOR NOMURA AND SUMAGAI TO QUARREL?
BUT... LOOKING AT THE INCIDENTS WHEN NOMURA GAVE SUMAGAI FLOWERS, AS WELL AS THE TIME WHEN WE HAD TO INTRODUCE OURSELVES...
I won't be able to do it in time for the first period!
DOESN'T NOMURA SEEM AS IF...
HE LIKES SUMAGAI A LOT?
TWITCH
Lend me your book!

RATTLE
OH?
HE. .HE SEEMED TO BE VERY FURIOUS
I THINK IT WILL BE BETTER NOT TO PROVOKE HIM
BUT I REALLY WANT TO KNOW THE REASON BEHIND IT
Nomar's
CHILL
Squeeze

Sob sob
WHENEVER I THINK ABOUT KAISE MY TEARS WILL ALWAYS
CONTINUE TO FLOW DOWN —
UNCONSCIOUSLY
THE TULIPS ARE ALL DYING
Even the last stalk is beginning to wither away
THE FLOWERS THAT NOMURA BROUGHT
HAS ALSO BECOME VERY SMALL.
I CHANGE THE WATER EVERY DAY, BUT STILL —
The flower pot was charmed.
Before that it looked like this.
TULIPS
TIME WILL CONTINUE TO TICK PAST.
AT THE TIME OF THE FAREWELL CEREMONY, IT WAS NOT THE FLOWERING SEASON YET.
FAREWELL CEREMONY
"SORRY
MY SHOULDERS ARE NOT VERY WIDE"

BETWEEN YOU AND NOMURA!
SO WHAT IS THE CONCLUSION?
WAH... BOTH SUPPORTERS (GIRLS) AS WELL AS SPECTATORS (BOYS) ARE CROWDING AROUND ME!
BUT SUMAGA! STILL CHANGES THE WATER FOR THE FLOWERS NOMURA GAVE HER AS IF NOTHING HAPPENED!
BOTH OF YOU HAVE NOT SAID EVEN GOOD MORNING TO EACH OTHER THESE FEW DAYS, HAVEN'T YOU?
ARE YOU WAITING FOR HIM?
ARE BOTH OF YOU GUYS FEUING?
SUMAGA!, SINCE THINGS HAVE COME TO THIS STATE...
SO... SO?
WAH WHY DID IT SUDDENLY BECOME LIKE THIS?
My back is sore...
NOMURA IS SO SCARY THAT NO ONE DARES ASK HIM!
JUST TELL US EVERYTHING TRUTHFULLY!
ERR
Yeah...
Right
BAM

A SILENT THREATENING ATMOSPHERE...
NOMURA SEEMS EVEN ANGRIER THAN BEFORE
NEXT
GLOOM
GLOOM
IF WE CONTINUE DOING THIS, WE WILL BE SEVERELY SCOLDED BY HIM...
WRONG...
BUT I REALLY WANT TO KNOW!
THE REASON WHY HE IS ANGRY
IT IS ME...
IS NOT BECAUSE OF EVERYONE

CLONK
EVEN THOUGH THINGS ARE AS THEY ARE NOW, I CHANGE THE WATER FOR THE FLOWERS ONLY WHEN NOMURA IS NOT HERE
It is only if the water is changed every day that the flowers can live longer
Ah, see! She is changing the water again.
She is waiting for him!
"FOR YOU!"
HE EXPRESSED HIS FEELINGS TO ME HONESTLY.
BUT I KEPT IGNORING IT
WAH! NOMURA IS BACK!
NERVOUS
IT WILL ALSO ANGER NOMURA
I AM AFRAID OF SUCH A SCENE
"I AM CHANGING THE WATER FOR THE FLOWERS YOU GAVE ME ..."
I DON'T EVEN HAVE A CHANCE TO APOLOGIZE.
I DISLIKE BEING SO WEAK AND HELPLESS...
TEACHER...
Ba-thump

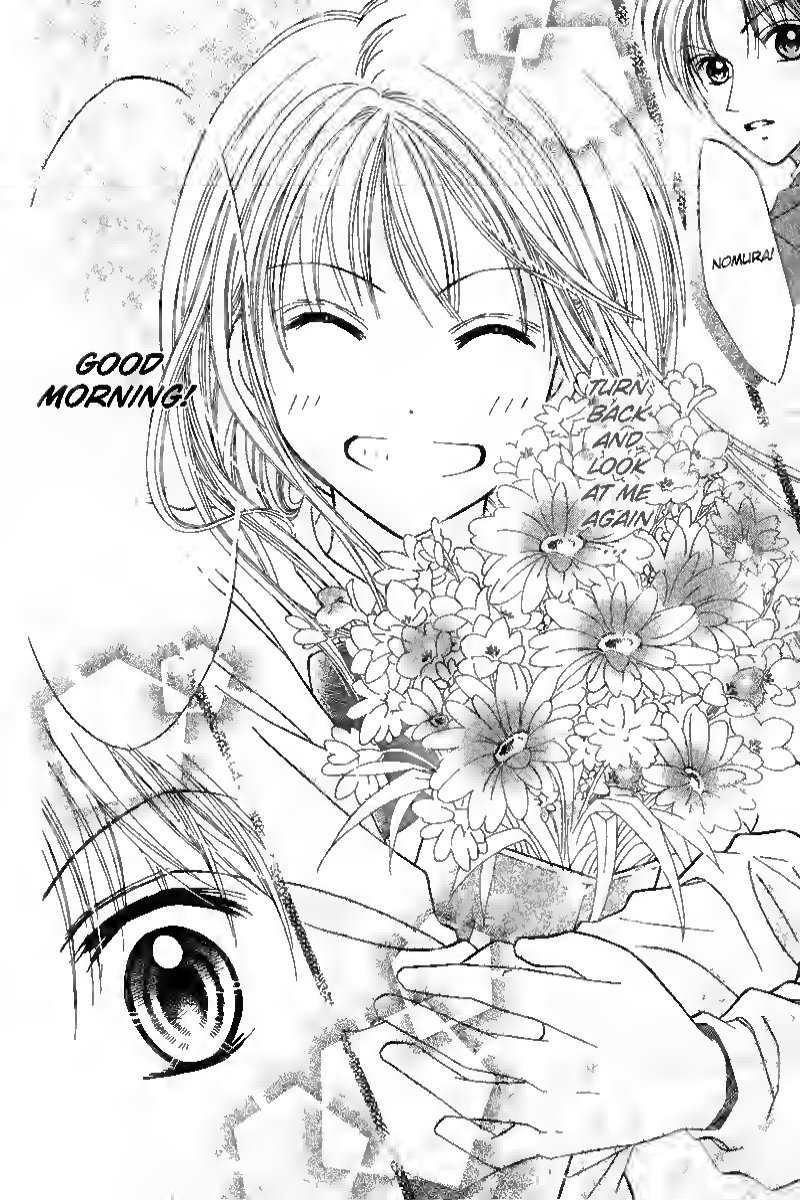
DASH
DASH
AH
DISLIKE ME
AH TEACHER WALKED AWAY
He didn't hear me?
Shukan has already called out to him so loudly
PRESS
RING
EH?
EH?
What happened?
RING
AH!
The fire alarm
RING
I AM REALLY AN IDIOT!
I RUSHED OUT SO HURRIEDLY SIMPLY UPON HEARING HIS VOICE
IN THE END, I EVEN DID THIS
RING
AH
Hey so noisy
Chuckle
Is it that girl?

BAM
THIS...
SORRY!
IT IS BECAUSE I BUMPED INTO THIS PERSON, THAT'S WHY THE ALARM WAS TRIGGERED
Oh
Is that how it was ?
HE OBVIOUSLY DID NOT
SO MANLY
RING
BUMP INTO ME
AH, IT STOPPED
The teacher must have stopped it
Students who wanted to see the commotion

Ah, the teacher is here
NO WONDER IT CAUSED ALL THAT COMMOTION.
.....
THE RINGING OF THE FIRE ALARM IS REALLY NOISY.
KAISE...
Hiii
Hiii
Hiii
Hii
I AM REALLY USE-LESS.
I KEEP ON CRYING OVER KAISE
AND YET I KEEP ON ESCAPING FROM NOMURA
I WAS DUMPED BY HIM BUT WHEN HE PROTECTED ME LIKE THAT I AM STARTING TO REFUSE TO GIVE UP...
AM I RIGHT NOW TOO WEAK AND HELPLESS...?
BUT FOR ONE OF THESE
SOB
SQUEEZE

Mornin.
Good morning.
I CAN USE MY OWN STRENGTH
TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM.
HEY, THEY DID NOT EVEN GREET EACH OTHER YESTERDAY
STUPID! IF HE HEARS THIS THEN YOU WILL BE GLARED AT
IT DOESN'T MATTER I DID NOT EVEN SAY WHO IT WAS.
WALKING
WHO
HE IS OBVIOUSLY ANGRY

SQUEEZE
OK! THE WATER IS CHANGED!
THE BOUQUET IS BECOMING SMALLER AND SMALLER
I AM REALLY AFRAID I GET REJECTED BY HIM AGAIN
Pant... pant...
RUN
BUT I STILL HOPE
TO LET HIM


NOMURA!
I TURN BACK AND LOOK AT ME AGAIN
GOOD MORNING!

"IS NOMURA IN LOVE WITH SUNAGA?"
I SAID IT...
"WE SHOULD CLARIFY IT."
SUCH AN AWKWARD INTRODUCTION,
I AM REALLY NERVOUS.
I WISH THAT ONE DAY,
WE WILL STILL BE ABLE TO FACE EACH OTHER ON GOOD TERMS
GRAB
EH?
MOST IMPORTANTLY
IT IS BECAUSE YOU ARE MY
PRESS

WHY ARE YOU ALL SO NOSEY?
...PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT RELATED TO THIS MATTER.
"DOESN'T NOMURA SEEM AS IF HE LIKES SUMIGA! A LOT?"
WOW
THAT IS VERY COURAGEOUS!
ALL OF YOU LOOK... NOMURA HE...?
EH...?
MOST IMPORTANT...
RING RING
RING RING

SINCE YOU WANT TO KNOW, THEN LET ME TELL YOU!
THIS IS MY TRUE FEELING!

"FRIEND."
MOST IMPORTANT...
WAH SO DIRECT
NO Johnny
THAT WAS WHAT I THOUGHT,
BUT IT WAS DISRUPTED BY THIS WARM EMBRACE...

Blue Sky Playground

By: Mota Kurasawa

Volume 03 Chapter 16

Scanner: Littlepinkrose12

Translator: Kyrelia

Proofreader: Shekyl

Editor: Seraph-Ai

Cover: Littlepinkrose12

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Note 3 ***I WANT TO BECOME A MANGAKA!!*** *~Mota's personal experience~*

About striving on for 3 to 5 years, this is actually based on my personal experience. I began drawing manga when I was 21 years old, and I only officially debuted as a mangaka through Margaret* when I was 25. Before that, I had also published my works in other magazines - but ...it was not very successful. (Now that I think about it, I really gave my editor-in-charge then a lot of trouble. I didn't have the talent, yet I was very proud ...) So as to say, from the time when I started submitting my works, to when I could draw according to my own style, it was about 4 years' time. My drawing skill seems to be slightly better now when I am an adult than when I was still a teenager. (In other words, I became even more cunning than before (laughs)). Anyway, for someone like me who cannot get the gist of things easily, it takes about 3 to 5 years to become a mangaka. In more unfortunate circumstances, it could even take 10 years. Therefore, if you have decided upon debuting as a mangaka, you must be prepared to wait. In this way, you will not be so troubled when submitting your works.

(Continued in Note 4)

RING
RING...
NOMURA!
WHY...?
Let go!
WHY IS HE HUGGING ME SO TIGHTLY?!
GASP
LET... LET GO OF ME!
LET GO OF ME!

Let's go
.....
AH, OUTSIDERS.
WHY ARE YOU ALL STILL STANDING HERE?
ERR
WHY ARE WE STILL STANDING HERE..?
This is the classroom!
THE ALARM STOPPED
Thump
Thump
Thump
Thump
Thump
Thump
NOW WHAT I CAN ONLY HEAR
ARE MY OWN HEARTBEATS

HAHAHA! THE SEASON OF LOVE HAS ARRIVED! SHUKAN, YOU ALSO MUST NOT FORGET ABOUT YOUR STUDIES.
I am very understanding aren't I?
OK.
OH.
It rang yesterday too
EH...! WHO IS THE ONE WHO PRESSED ON THE ALARM AGAIN?
TAP TAP
Chatter
Chatter
Chatter
THINGS THAT IN THE PAST I HAVE
NEVER DARED TO LOOK IN THE EYE AT
SO MUCH STRENGTH
MY BODY IS STILL ACHING...

I'M FEELING
PAINED OVER THEM NOW...
ERR — ALTHOUGH THERE ARE MANY THINGS THAT HAVE YET TO BE CONFIRMED,
FOR OUR FIRST LESSON WE SHALL HAVE PRACTICE FOR THE BALL GAMES COMPETITION
Chatter
Chatter
EVERYONE PLEASE PRACTICE IN GROUPS ACCORDING TO THE EVENT YOU ARE PARTICIPATING IN
BALL GAMES COMPETITION
I AM PARTICIPATING IN BASKETBALL RIGHT?
SOMEHOW I FEEL THAT I AM NOT IN THE MOOD TO PRACTICE
SIGH HOW I WISH I COULD SPEAK TO TANTAN
Come back to school soon
The basketball team is here
SUMAGAI!
Jolt

EH?
WAIT
WE SHALL ENTRUST NOMURA TO YOU!
YOU MUST CARRY ON OUR WISHES AS FANS OF NOMURA!
Left alone
Why ?
Let us practice passing the ball!
Let's start in groups of 2.
BAM
EH.
YOU ARE REALLY AMAZING DESPITE YOUR APPEARANCE!
SUCH AN EXTREMELY PLAIN GIRL LIKE YOU, ACTUALLY MANAGED TO CATCH HOLD OF NOMURA!
WE SIMPLY RESPECT SUMAGAI SO MUCH!
WHY DID THINGS TURN OUT LIKE THIS ...?
BUMP
LET US PLAY TOGETHER
This one.
I WILL GO EASY ON YOU

THROW!
HEY!
Catch
!
Throb
EVEN THOUGH HE DIDN'T USE HIS FULL STRENGTH IT STILL HURTS A LOT—
TO ME, HE...
EH,
THROW IT BACK TO ME.
...IS A VERY IMPORTANT PERSON.

TO ME
NOMURA, YOU...
ARE STILL...
THAT IS ONLY AS FRIENDS.
BUT,
THAT IS ONLY
THROW
Catch
NOW...
YOU ONLY SEE ME AS A FRIEND, RIGHT?
FROM NOW ON, IT WILL CHANGE!
THROW
Catch
BUT...

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS,
IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR IT TO CHANGE ..!
BUT EVEN IF YOU SAY THIS ..
IMPOSSIBLE..
IS THAT SO?
CATCH

IT CANNOT BE...
IT SEEMS I'VE...
EH?
EH?
SWISH
EH?
NO...!

BAM
YOU FOOL,
ANY GUY WHO IS SERIOUS ABOUT HURTING YOU AT THIS KIND OF TIME IS THE WORST.

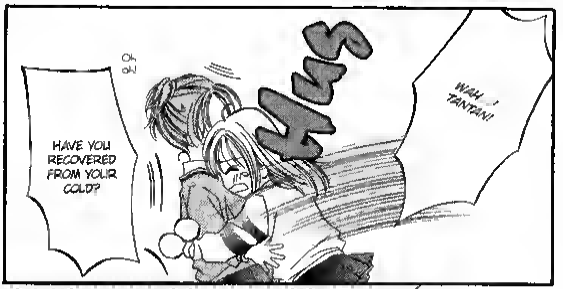
GRAB
EVEN IF HE DOES NOT USE HIS FULL STRENGTH
HE IS STILL SO MUCH STRONGER THAN ME
IS YOUR HAND ALL RIGHT?
OR DOES IT STILL HURT A LOT?
...I AM FINE.
You received so many falls just now

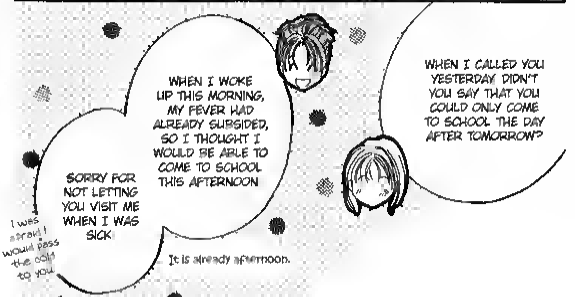
NOMURA
HELSA CITY
I ONLY FEEL DEEP IN MY HEART NOW
WHAT THE THINGS THAT I HAVE NEVER DARED TO LOOK IN THE EYE AT IN THE PAST ARE
WORDS THAT I HAVE JUST SAID...
HAS BEGUN TO SEEM LESS CERTAIN
THE IMPOSSIBLE FOR IT TO CHANGE
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS

3

I keep saying I have nothing to do, so everyone around me thinks that I really have nothing to do. This is rather troubling. I seem to be a lazy person to everyone. Usually I will lock myself up in the room on the second storey to concentrate on my work, and when I occasionally go down to the first storey to take a rest, the greeting I receive from my family is actually "You only woke up just now?" My friends also frequently berate me, "Quickly finish drawing your drafts!" Err... My friends have really helped me by a lot, especially in pasting screentones* (I and the people who helped me are all working adults, shopkeepers' friends who are totally not related to manga). So, it is reasonable for them to complain. Although I always feel very apologetic, but I still needed my friends' help every time. The screentone for the uniforms in "Blue Sky Playground", has always been pasted by my friends. (My goodness. Why am I writing so much and yet so incoherently...?) In conclusion, even though I like to say that I have nothing to do, but in fact, I actually still have a lot of work to do. Everyone, please forgive me, especially my family and friends! (In the end I still don't understand what I am doing...)

*Translator's note: Screentone is a technique for applying textures and shades to drawings. A traditional screentone sheet consists of a flexible transparent backing, the printed texture, and a wax adhesive layer. The sheet is applied to the paper adhesive down and rubbed with a stylus on the backing side. The backing is then peeled off, leaving the ink adhered to the paper where pressure was applied. (That's what Mota means when she says paste the screentones)




I was afraid I would pass the cold to you
SORRY FOR NOT LETTING YOU VISIT ME WHEN I WAS SICK
WHEN I WOKE UP THIS MORNING, MY FEVER HAD ALREADY SUBSIDED, SO I THOUGHT I WOULD BE ABLE TO COME TO SCHOOL THIS AFTERNOON
It is already afternoon.
WHEN I CALLED YOU YESTERDAY, DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT YOU COULD ONLY COME TO SCHOOL THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW?

Kyaa
Kyaa
SOB
I wanted Tantan to listen to me
Tantan listen to me
EXACTLY ! IT WAS REALLY TERRIBLE!
I only know a little from the telephone conversations
...BUT, WHY DOES IT SEEM AS IF MANY THINGS HAVE HAPPENED WHILE I WAS AWAY?
SUMAGA!! COME HERE!
FLINCH
AH... KYOKO IS BACK IN SCHOOL.
Shoc
King
JOIN-US~ WE HAVE TOO LITTLE MEMBERS~ OH OH OH~
Ayia
Lweik
TANTAN, YOU GO AND CHAT WITH OTHER CLASSMATES FIRST
SORRY, I HAVE TO ESCAPE FOR A WHILE
TAKA... TAKAKURA
You came again today
Costumes
Recitative* Drama Club!
Join! Join!

LIBRARY
I SHOULD BE ABLE TO RELAX HERE...
SIGH
EH, HAVE YOU HEARD?
IT WAS SO UNEXPECTED!
Exactly
URG!!
AH, AND THE GIRL CALLED SUMAGA!
ABOUT SHUKAN NOMURA, EH?
NEVER MIND! THERE IS STILL KAISE!
I SHALL BET MY ENTIRE YOUTH ON KAISE!
Me too!
KYAA KYAA
THERE IS NOT ANY QUIET AND PEACEFUL PLACE.
AH.
THIS BOOK...
KAISE IS ALSO NOT BAD...

I HOPE KAISE DOES NOT GET A GIRLFRIEND!
THERE IS NO NEED TO WORRY ALL THOSE WHO CONFESSED TO HIM HAVE BEEN REJECTED.
HE FEELS AS IF HE DOES NOT KNOW WHAT IT IS LIKE TO BE IN LOVE.
THAT IS ACTUALLY TO HIDE HIS EMBARRASS-MENT
EAT MORE FOOD WITH VITAMIN E AND USE A DRY CLOTH TO RUB AGAINST YOUR SKIN WHEN YOU FEEL COLD
"TO CURE CRYOPHOBIA!
HE IS VERY KIND AND GENTLE
ALTHOUGH HE LOOKS UNAPPROACH-ABLE,
THIS BOOK..."
WHY...?
EVEN THOUGH I KNOW IT IS IMPOSSIBLE, I STILL CANNOT GIVE UP...
.....
HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT IT IS LIKE TO BE IN LOVE...
THAT'S WHY I WAS ALSO REJECTED BY HIM...

LET'S GO TO THE UDON* NOODLE SHOP FIRST, AND YOU CAN SAY WHATEVER YOU WANT TO SAY THEN
EH?
NO MATTER HOW LONG YOU WANT ME TO ACCOMPANY YOU FOR TODAY IT'S OKAY!
Trembl
TANTAN...

AH NOMURA IS ALSO LEAVING...

EH?
turn

MY TEARS NOW...

WHAT MUST I DO TO MAKE THEM STOP...?

DING DONG DING
YAY! END OF CLASSES!
MIRITA, YOU MUST TREAT ME

*Translator's note: Tempura is a classic Japanese dish of deep fried battered vegetables or seafood

...ABOUT KAISE ABOUT NOMURA,
.....
...OKAY, DO YOU WANT TO START TALKING?
SIGH
IT LOOKS DELICIOUS!
THIS SHOP HAS A GOOD REPUTATION
It is only during this time that it is less crowded.
I HAVE SO MUCH THAT I WANT TO SAY...
ACTUALLY...
CLATTER
AH, WELCOME!
...EH?

IT IS... KAISE!
GOOD AFTER-NOON
KAISE YOU ARE HERE AGAIN
My God My God
Do you still help out in your family business?
Yeah.
HE SEEMS TO BE A REGULAR CUSTOMER
And she seems to like him a lot.
YEAH...
THIS... IS SUCH A COIN-CIDENCE
THUD
THANKS FOR THE WAIT. BE CAREFUL, IT'S HOT
THANK YOU.
Sniff
Ha ha ha
KAISE ALWAYS HAS TO DRINK THE SOUP FIRST.
Sniffle

HA HA,
IT WILL STILL STEAM OVER.
My spectacles
WAH...
I HAVE NEVER SEEN AT SCHOOL...
SUCH A KIND SMILE ON HIS FACE LIKE THAT BEFORE...
YOU ARE STILL SO YOUNG, AND YET YOUR MANNERS ARE LIKE THAT OF AN OLD PERSON!
Why don't you come and eat udon noodles by yourself?

NO NO
ARE YOU GOING OUT WITH A GIRL NOW?
Every time you come, you only talk about your family matters.
AH HE IS REALLY..
A PERSON WHO "DOESN'T FALL IN LOVE"
YOU SHOULD, LIKE LAST TIME..
GET A GIRLFRIEND,
AND COME TOGETHER TO EAT NOODLES..
EH?
AH IMPOSSIBLE
I AM NOT POPULAR AMONG GIRLS.
Ah you are Iyina.
"..LIKE LAST TIME.. GET A GIRLFRIEND"
.....
"LIKE LAST TIME.."

IN WHAT WAY IS HE
A PERSON WHO "DOESN'T FALL IN LOVE"?

Blue Sky Playground

By: Mota Kurasawa

Volume 03 Chapter 17

Scanner: Littlepinkrose12
Translator: Kyrelia
Proofreader: Shekyl
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Cleaner: Littlepinkrose12

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Note 4 I WANT TO BECOME A MANGAKA!! ~Mota's suggestions are slightly biased~

Yeah. Because I debuted at a much older age, it turned out that most of the suggestions I wrote are biased towards encouraging people who are in their twenties (Note 2, 3 also) Readers of this manga seem to be all teenagers who are only 10+ years old. Sorry. Okay! Let's write! Yeah, Err About this I am not like that kind of people who are very clever (this is very sad). So it is difficult for me to make suggestions such as 'As long as you do this you will definitely be able to become a mangaka in one year's time' But, for me to make comments like 'If you make this a habit in about three years time, you will have the potential to become a mangaka' It is still OK. In conclusion, my method is to let everyone 'develop slowly' For readers who want to 'debut in one go' I am sorry but I will not be able to help you.

(Continued in Note 5)

Rattle
I WILL BE LEAVING, AUNTIE
THANKS FOR COMING. COME AGAIN NEXT TIME!
Ah!
AH
OH YEAH
RATTLE
AH,
TANTAN... I... I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU...
IT IS ABOUT I...
...MIRITA
MIRITA, NEVER MIND
THERE IS NO NEED TO TELL ME TODAY

LET'S GO HOME
THERE ARE TWO THINGS...
WHICH HAVE SHOCKED ME.
OF COURSE, ONE OF THEM WAS
KNOWING THAT KAISE ONCE HAD A GIRL HE LOVED
I ALSO REALIZED HOW IMPORTANT...
THE FEELING OF "LIKING" SOMEONE IS

4

I watched a *V.League's volleyball match

That's right, a volleyball match! Men's team. I have a relative who became an avid fan of volleyball after watching the World Cup qualifying matches. Especially *Takahiro Yamamoto, who is playing for *Panasonic Panthers (He is very handsome!). I don't know why, but I went together with her to Hiroshima to watch a V.League's match. In the end... it was really very exciting! The volleyball matches are so nice to watch! Usually, I would be staring uninterestedly, but after watching that match, I was all bright eyed and I could not help saying, "Sports are so wonderful..." (Part of the content above has been exaggerated). I even saw *Kenji Onoue from JT (He is a player from the opponent team. He also played in the World Cup qualifying matches, and is also very popular). I will most likely go and watch the final match in May... I hope then I will be able to see *Akira Koshiya, *Makitani Osami and *Hosokawa Nobuyoshi live in action ~ (To readers who have no interest in volleyball... I am very sorry...)

*Translator's note: V.League is the top-level volleyball league for both men and women in Japan. Takahiro Yamamoto is a volleyball player from Japan who has won many awards. Panasonic Panthers is a men's volleyball team based in Hirakata city, Osaka, Japan. It plays in V.League. The names listed are of famous Japanese baseball players.

BOTH OF US ARE FRESHMAN STUDENTS
WE ARE FANS OF SHUKAN SEMPAI!
I am Miho~
I am Yuri~
WE HAVE WANTED TO SPEAK TO YOU SINCE BEFORE!
Outright rejection.
I HAVE SOMETHING ON. I AM BUSY.
Look at my arm~ band
Eh! Shukan finna the wanker over
FIGHT 2-2
Sensei is over enthusiastic isn't he?
Yeah.
YAY! WE TURNED TO LOOK AT US!
Making team banners
RIP
THEN I SHALL LEAVE IT TO YOU
EXCITED
EXCITED
WHAT DID HE WRITE...?
Yuri
Miho
Scribble
...PEN PALS? SURE
Eh? Really?
?
WAH! SO COLD... BUT YET, SO COOL!
SEMPAI... COULD YOU EXCHANGE EMAIL ADDRESSES WITH US? EMAIL ADDRESSES!
Absolutely no connection
Isn't that inappropriate?
AH!
WE CAN BECOME PEN PALS!
Ah-ha! That is not suitable for you!

!!
YEAR ONE ACTING COMMITTEE MEMBERS
THERE WILL BE A MEETING TODAY AFTER SCHOOL FOR A DISCUSSION ON THE BALL GAMES COMPETITION
Ah! We are so busy that we do not even have time to use the broadcasting system
THIS IS JUST A MESSAGE TO DELIVER!
He actually want us to become his messengers!
Eh
JUST LIKE WHAT THE RUMORS SAID! SHUKAN SEMPAI IS SUCH A HEARTLESS MAN...
DO YOUNG PEOPLE USUALLY SPEAK LIKE THAT?
Commie enjoys it on in acting
Boo hoo!
WHAT IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?! BOTH OF THEM HAVE SUCH STRONG DEFENSE!
Year sup
It is simply a waste of male resources!
THERE ISN'T ANY STRONG DEFENSE NOMURA'S GIRLFRIEND IS JUST RIGHT THERE
AH?
WANDER
WANDER
WANDER
HANDSOME TWIN BROTHERS
Argh
SERIOUSLY!
IMPOSSIBLE!
SHUKAN NOMURA IS EVEN MORE DIFFICULT
I JUST WANT A GOOD-LOOKING BOYFRIEND! EITHER ONE OF THE SHUKAN BROTHERS IS FINE! I WANT ..
Huh? Who are you?

That.... that Danara sheep...
...is Nomura senpai's... GIRLFRIEND?
Absent-minded
Sit
Below the stairs
!!
SPEECHLESS...
STUNNED...
WHEN THIS WAS DISCOVERED, ALL THE GIRLS IN YEAR TWO WERE SHOCKED...
Sigh
Tears can't help falling.
BUT... EVERYONE HAS A TYPE OF GIRL THEY LIKE...
She is home right?
...I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS.
I AM JUST A NUISANCE TO THE CLASS NOW
I DID VERY BADLY IN THE BALL GAMES COMPETITION TODAY...
SUMMOH!!
Nomura played truant
SIGH
DARKNESS

EVEN IF I KNOW
I CANNOT POSSIBLY CHANGE ANYTHING
TEARS
WHY DO I STILL FEEL SO UPSET ?
ALTHOUGH I DID NOT HAVE MUCH HOPE BEFORE I CONFESSED
ABOUT KAISE
WHEN DID I START HAVING SUCH DESIRES?
I STILL HAVE NOT UNDERSTOOD WHAT THE THING ABOUT KAISE'S "GIRLFRIEND" IS ABOUT
WHINE
Polishing the horn on her head
I AM SUCH A FOOL
A BIG FOOL
NO WAY! MY TEARS ARE FALLING AGAIN!
MIRITA!
TAKAKURA IS LOOKING FOR YOU.
HEY
TANTAN
...

I WANT TO DO SOMETHING NEW TO TAKE MY MIND OFF THINGS
...TO TELL THE TRUTH, I AM STILL A BIT SAD.
ONCE I HAVE TIME TO MYSELF, I WILL ST...RT THINKING RIDICULOUS THOUGHTS...
AND...
Recitative Drama Club!
Join! Join!
...YEAH, TAKAKURA.
I AM HIDING HERE BECAUSE I AM AFRAID OF BEING CAUGHT BY HER
But it is very considerate...
...ARE YOU STILL HESITATING ON WHETHER TO JOIN A CLUB ACTIVITY OR NOT?
...YEAH, I WANT TO SIT DOWN AND THINK ABOUT IT...
IF NOT, I WILL CRY...
WHENEVER I THINK ABOUT THE MATTER ON KAISE'S GIRLFRIEND...
"TANTAN, YOU'RE ALWAYS SO NICE TO ME. IT'S AT TIMES LIKE THIS WHEN IT'S ALL RIGHT IF YOU THROW A TANTRUM NO MATTER HOW UNREASONABLE IT IS!"
STRAIGHT FORWARD
EVEN IF I JOIN THE CLUB, I WILL ONLY BRING TROUBLE TO EVERYONE...
SEE! THIS IS HOW I AM NOW!
RUB RUB RUB!
MIRITA...

WHATEVER YOU WANT TO DO,
JUST LET GO OF YOUR WORRIES AND TRY IT.
Are you relaxing yourself? Tantan is really nice though!
.?
I am going.
Have you forgotten?
THAT WAS WHAT YOU SAID TO ME TO COMFORT ME, WHEN I WAS VERY DEPRESSED LAST TIME
AH
That's me.
THOSE WORDS, I AM NOW RETURNING THEM BACK TO YOU,
IT IS FINE EVEN IF YOU ACT A LITTLE SPOILT
OW

WHAT...
I WANT TO DO...
huddle
...WHAT?

"BEING MINDFUL OF THE FACT THAT KAISE ONCE HAD A GIRLFRIEND"
"BEING HESITANT ON JOINING THE CLUB."
THERE IS ANOTHER THING I WANT TO DO...
...NOMURA, SORRY FOR WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY...

"IMPOSSIBLE."
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS,
IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR IT TO CHANGE."
HOW COULD I SAY SUCH HEARTLESS WORDS"
I WAS ALSO REJECTED BY THE PERSON I LIKED
SORRY?
WHY?
...YESTERDAY DURING THE BASKETBALL PRACTICE...
"FROM NOW ON, IT WILL CHANGE!"
YESTERDAY AFTER SCHOOL, NOMURA'S SMILING FACE
I AM REALLY SORRY...
WAS FILLED WITH APOLOGY.

SITS UP
Bwaha hahah ahaha!

DON'T BE LIKE THIS! I HAVE BEEN REFLECTING ON MYSELF!
I did it a little sure!
YOU ARE FINALLY THINKING ABOUT MY CONFESSION SERIOUSLY?
YOU WOULD NOT DIVERT THE TOPIC AWAY AGAIN, RIGHT?
Good grief! It should have been like this!
Lies down
Ah.

THEN YOU HAVE TO STOP BEING SO DEPRESSED,
AS LONG AS...

HAA...

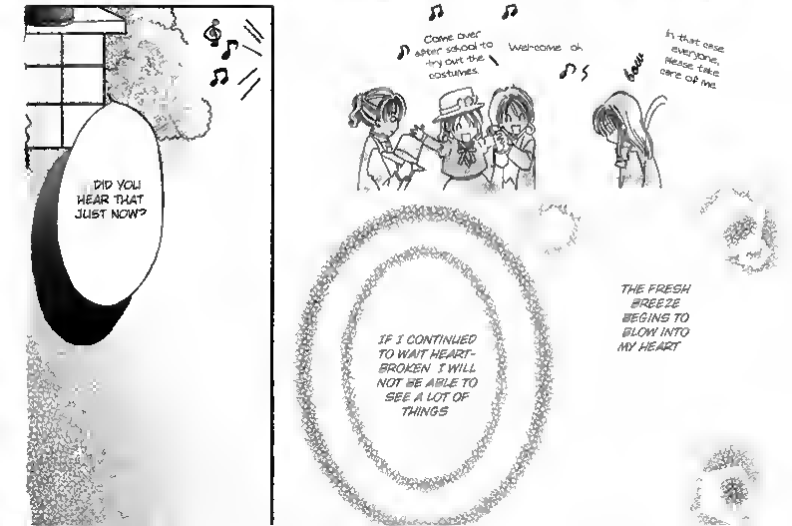
...I SEE THE NORMAL MIRITA.
IT IS ENOUGH.
NOMURA'S WORDS...

Ohhh
STOP THINKING RIDICULOUS THOUGHTS.
NOW IT'S THE TIME FOR ME TO STEP OUT ON A NEW JOURNEY
...MADE ME FEEL...
MUCH MORE RELAXED
...WHAT?

YOU WANT TO JOIN THE RECITATIVE DRAMA CLUB?
YOU WANT TO JOIN?
TA-TA
Background
19th Century London
YEAH
GREAT!
PLEASE GO TO THAT BENCH TO FILL UP THE CLUB APPLICATION FORM!
AND THESE ARE OUR CLUB MEMBERS!
Johnny
Drama Club's rehearsal in progress
AH?
You~ are!
Oh~ oh~
?
AH... NO...
YES
WHY ARE THEY PRACTICING HERE ...?
YOU FINALLY FOUND THE ATTRACTIVENESS OF OUR CLUB!

We shall entrust Nomura to you!
OTHER PEOPLE MOST LIKELY SAW IT AS THAT—
AH
I SHOULD DENY IT
BUT SHOUTING "I REJECTED HIM" LOUDLY IS A LITTLE—
unfair to Nomura
But sigh
SUMAGAI, WHO ACCEPTED NOMURA'S PASSIONATE CONFESSION
DO
N
EH...
I didn't accept it!
NOMURA REALLY LIKES SUMAGAI A LOT~~~~~~
WHEN WE WERE SINGING THE NEWS ABOUT SUMAGAI BEING REJECTED BY KAISE~~~~~~~~
Ah? Really? You were rejected?
"YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO CIRCULATE SUCH GOSSIP ANYMORE!"
He said that~
EH—

AT THAT TIME, WHEN I DID NOT EVEN KNOW
NOMURA STILL CARED ABOUT MY MATTERS SO MUCH
At that time~ it was just as enchanting as Schubert's "Der Erlkönig" ♪~
NOMURA...
*Translator's note: Der Erlkönig is a poem by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. It depicts the death of a child assailed by a supernatural being, the Erlking or "Erlkönig". It is used in Franz Schubert's composition Opus 1. a musical drama


DID YOU HEAR THAT JUST NOW?
Come over after school to try out the costumes.
Welcome ok
In that case everyone, please take care of me
IF I CONTINUED TO WAIT HEART-BROKEN I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SEE A LOT OF THINGS
THE FRESH BREEZE BEGINS TO BLOW INTO MY HEART

WHAT THOSE TWO GIRLS WERE SINGING
I HEARD IT. I HEARD IT!
Eh, what
THAT DAMARA SHEEP!
SHE WAS REJECTED BY KAISE SEMPAI THAT'S WHY SHE WENT OUT WITH NOMURA SEMPAI!
SO INFURIATING
DO YOU WANT TO SPAM HER INBOX?
Send a hundred emails!
I DON'T KNOW HER EMAIL ADDRESS!
Argh...
LET HER GET HER PUNISHMENT...
HORRIBLE! LET'S LOOK FOR THAT WOMAN DIRECTLY!
FLUTTER
FLUTTER
FLUTTER
GRAB

?!
WHAT..?
AH KAISE SEMPAI..
.....
Yeah One Meeting
WE HAVE ALREADY PASSED THE MESSAGE ON THE NOTE AROUND
Very obedient.
IS IS THERE ANYTHING?
Hmp!
HEARTLESS MAN HEARTLESS MAN
EH
SMILE

OH... THE COSTUME LOOKS VERY NICE ON YOU!
WOW
RECITATIVE*DRAMA CLUB
WOW
NOW
You seem to be very attuned to wearing costumes!
Like this?
Well, I've been doing it ever since I was little. It looks nice.
I SHOULD MOVE FORWARD
HEY NOMURA.
WAVE
I CANNOT REMAIN DEPRESSED LIKE THIS

Male cooking club, random food-testing in progress
KAISE WILL NOT DO SUCH A THING!
HUH? THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE!
YOUR BROTHER IS IN THE COURTYARD SURROUNDED BY A BUNCH OF YEAR ONE FEMALE STUDENTS!
IS HE FOLLOWING IN YOUR FOOTSTEPS AND LOWERING HIS DEFENSE AGAINST GIRLS?
It's like a harem!
Wanna
Nomura does it taste nice?

Excited
KAISE SEMPAI IS REALLY AMAZING!
HUH? REALLY?
YOU ARE VERY SERIOUS, VERY CUTE!
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF I CRY.
BUT IF IT'S POSSIBLE, IT IS BETTER TO SMILE!
It suits you!
What about this one?

Impossible
I MUST STILL SMILE...
EVEN IF I AM FORCING MYSELF,

Blue Sky Playground

By: Mota Kurasawa

Volume 03 Chapter 18

Scanner: Littlepinkrose12
Translator: Kyrelia
Proofreader: Shekyl
Editor: Seraph-Ai
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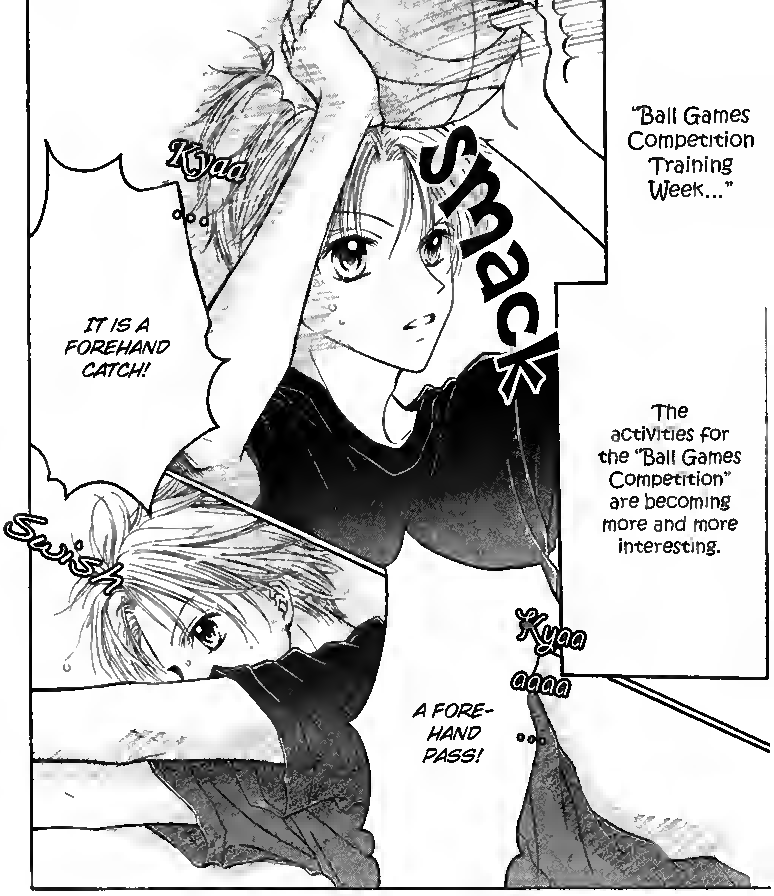
Brought to you by: Estheticism



Note 5 WANT TO BECOME A MANGAKA! ~Make it a habit to write a diary~

Manga is a product which consists of both, pictures and dialogue (words). Among the people who want to become a mangaka, there should be a lot of you who like to draw. In comparison, people who like to 'play with words" would most likely be comparatively lesser, right? Actually, an interest in writing is a useful advantage for a mangaka. However, you don't need to have excellent results in Japanese, or be very proficient in writing... As long as you are able to express your thoughts clearly, it will be sufficient. In order to train your sensitivity to words, the best method is to write a diary. ...Ah, another way would be to write poems. This is also another good way to develop a good grasp of words! Try it yourself~

(Continued in Note 6)

This week we will be intensifying our practice in preparation for the coming Ball Games Competition.
ISN'T THAT JUST A NORMAL THROW AND PASS?
Are they using technical terms for basketball?
IT CAN'T BE HELPED LOOKS ARE MORE IMPORTANT
KYAAAA
NOMURA IS SIMPLY FABULOUS!
Just passing by
can't help myself but cry
Boo hoo ! Every time I remember Nomura is already taken
When our school holds activities of such a large magnitude, everyone will become especially enthusiastic. (Please refer to the farewell ceremony)
↗ In Volume 1 Chapter 7
Recitative Drama Club
...EH? I AM THE MC* FOR THE BALL GAMES COMPETITION?
The students are all so lively!
*Master of Ceremonies

AH AH AH AH!
I CANNOT DO IT
TAKE A STEP BACK TO TAKE ON THE JOB OF A MC
TO PUT IT SIMPLY-- AS SHE LIKES TO ATTRACT ATTENTION-- SHE IS NOT SUITABLE TO BECOME THE MC--
BECAUSE OF MY OVER-FLOWING INBORN NATURE OF AN ACTOR
BUT I HAVE UPGRADED MYSELF.
IF YOU WANT ME NOW TO
Recitative·Drama ★ Club·Meeting
WHY ...?
Please~ help yourselves ~
ISN'T TAKAKURA MORE SUIT-ABLE?
TO become the MC
THAT IS RIGHT.
I is as suitable as how the policewoman costume suits me
AH AH! I CANNOT DO IT!
You still need to train your courage to perform on stage!
ALSO, NO MASKS ALLOWED!
KAISE ...
... AH!

SUCH DISILLUSIONMENT.
Never mind at least he is still doing his job as a committee member properly
NOW .
The outset allocation plan
Senpai what are you working?
.NOWADAYS, HE SEEMS TO BE VERY CLOSE TO THE FIRST-YEAR GIRLS .
AND THE "GIRLFRIEND" HE HAD LAST TIME .
AND SMILE!
STOP THINKING ABOUT IT...
I SHALL FORGET ABOUT THIS .
IT IS DONE! IT LOOKS VERY DELICIOUS!
Simple onigiri*

*Translator's note: Onigiri is a Japanese snack which is white rice formed into a triangular or oval shape and wrapped in nori (seaweed).

*Translator's note: Itadakimasu is a phrase said by Japanese at the start of a meal.
IT IS A COLLOQUIAL TERM USED BY IDOLS IN THE PAST.
IT IS NOW VERY POPULAR IN CLASS 2
Bwahaha! Why do you all learn such a thing?
AFTER PRACTICE, THEY WILL EVEN SAY, "EVERYONE HAS WORKED HARD YO" TOGETHER!
Wah! Let's say it too ~~
I SHALL HELP MYSELF YO!
THEN I ALSO WANT
Let me try once!
ITADAKIMASU* YO!
WHY DO YOU ADD A "YO" AT THE END OF YOUR SENTENCES?
Wahaha
Everyone will be able to eat this after practice.
OK
SO WE MUST, AT LEAST, CONTRIBUTE BY MAKING HOMEMADE LOVE ONIGIRI FOR EVERYONE!
WE ARE NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE COMPETITION (LACK OF ATHLETIC SKILLS),
HEY!
See you later
OK!
Good job yo!
Wah
INDEED, EVERYONE IS USING IT
I keep learning it
CLASS 2...
THAT MEANS KAISE WILL BE PRACTICING AS WELL...

shock
NO... NOMURA!
There are rice grains on your hand.
chomp
WHY... WHY DID YOU... YOU SUDDENLY DO THAT...?
PRACTICE IS SO TIRING... I FEEL SO HUNGRY...
NOMURA, YOU CANNOT DO THIS
...
...BOTH OF THEM..
ARE ACTUALLY VERY LOVING
Don't want to admit it!
FEELS LIKE ANY OTHER BOYFRIEND AND GIRLFRIEND...
I want to eat that

BUT ...
BUT ...
CLENCH
STUPID.
I AM NOT HIS "GIRLFRIEND."
...
"NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR IT TO CHANGE."
SUCH WORDS THAT DO NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT OTHERS' FEELINGS, I DON'T WANT TO SAY THEM AGAIN.
IN AN INNOCENT, PITIFUL UNREQUITED LOVE.
I AM TOTALLY ...

Eh?

NOMURA ...
Waah
I don't believe this! Both of you are already not compatible with each other!
Further-more it is.!
Waah
KIND OF UNREQUITED LOVE!
FURTHERMORE, IT IS THE UNWILLING-TO-GIVE-UP...

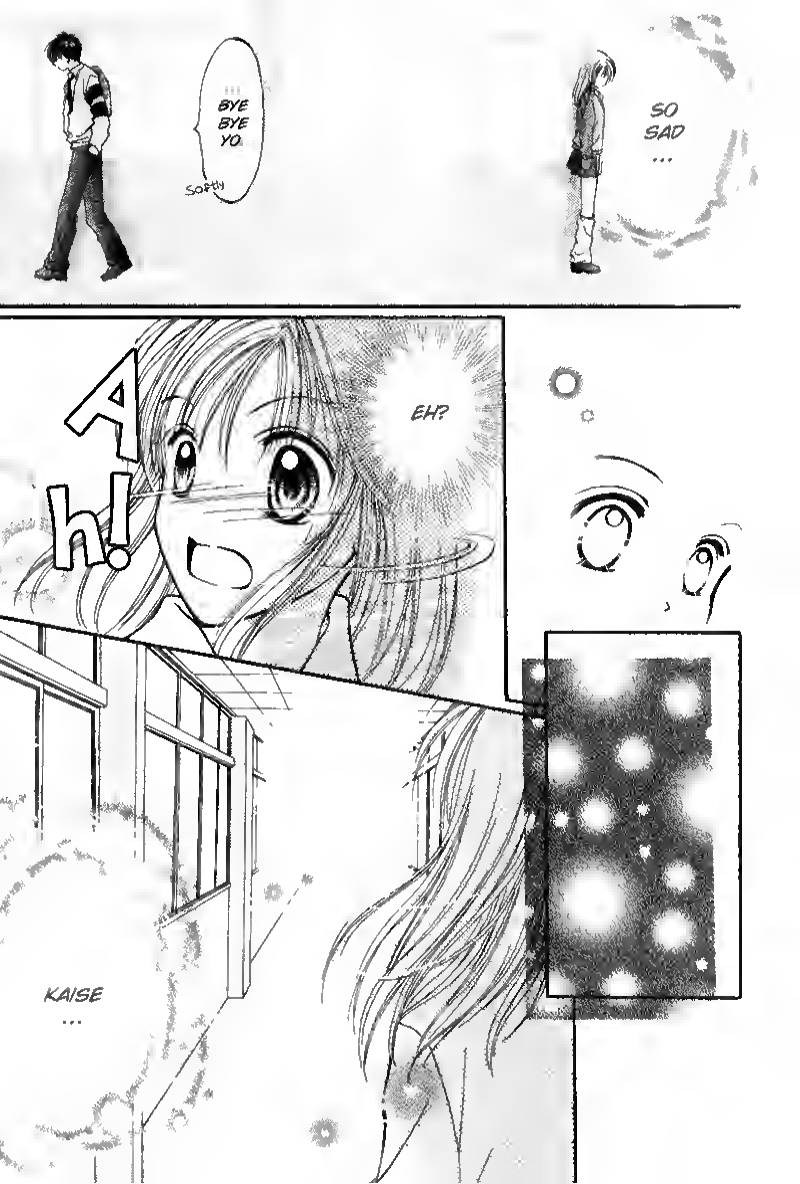
Dupe-ssed
SIGH, YOU ALSO DESERVE OTHERS' PITY SOMETIMES.
I envy you.
BUT NOT EVERYONE KNOWS ABOUT THAT MATTER!
YEAH ...
THAT IS TRUE, BUT
I HEARD ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED IN THE HOME ECONOMICS CLASSROOM.
YOU MUST BE MORE CAREFUL.
If this continues, other girls will start treating you as their enemy.
SOB ...
BUT AT THAT TIME, WHEN NOMURA SAID THAT, I WAS GLAD.
TAKAKURA ...
...DON'T THINK YOU ARE THAT HORRIBLE OF A PERSON.
IT IS A BIT TOO MUCH FOR HIM TO TURN YOU DOWN LIKE THAT.
In the end you just wanted to say this?
BUT
Okay! It is okay if you want to wear a mask!
SO YOU MUST WORK HARDER TO BECOME THE MC FOR THE BALL GAMES COMPETITION!

Ah, senpai! You are wearing your PE attire!
WHY IS IT THAT HE "DOESN'T LIKE"
AND THIS ARMY OF STRANGE FIRST-YEAR GIRLS IS OK WITH HIM?
I don't understand!
KAISE IS REALLY HARD TO UNDER-STAND
SENPAI, YOU MUST FULFILL THE PROMISE YOU MADE LAST TIME.
AS LONG AS WE DO NOT BULLY SUMAGAI MIRITA, YOU MUST GO ON A DATE WITH US!
THE PAIR OF HANDS ON MY SHOULDERS
HELPED ME REGAIN A BIT OF MY SELF-CONFIDENCE
...
...
Silence

GOOD JOB YO!
BYE BYE YO!
Good job yo~
Ahaha
IT HAS REALLY BECOME POPULAR OVER THE PAST TWO OR THREE DAYS...
Everyone is saying it!
That kind of scene.
IT FEELS LIKE HOW PEOPLE IN TROPICAL COUNTRIES GREET EACH OTHER...
Bye bye yo~
Good job yo!
Then I will be going.
ba-thump
KAISE...
THIS SHOULD BE COUNTED AS A TERM USED BY FRIENDS, RIGHT?
Bye bye

I REGAINED A BIT OF MY SELF-CONFIDENCE...
I HOPE THAT WE CAN STILL BE "FRIENDS..."
Good.
GOOD JOB YO!
I said it
SUCH A SIMPLE ...
Good job yo!
Bye bye yo!
GREETING...
...
PASS
WHY?

DOES HE NOT EVEN WANT TO REPLY TO SUCH A SIMPLE GREETING...?
I NOW...
..DO NOT EVEN HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE A "FRIEND ANYMORE?


BYE BYE YO.
SO SAD ...
EH?
Ah!
KAISE ...

Run!
EH?
EH?
YOU WANT TO HELP?
YOU WANT TO HELP ME CARRY THIS?
That is great! I can go to my club activity immediately with this!
SUMAGAI, SHE..
...SEEMED TO BE VERY ENERGETIC.
IT WAS ONLY A SOFTLY-SPOKEN SENTENCE..
"BYE BYE YO"!
A SINGLE GREETING BETWEEN "NORMAL" FRIENDS...
IT IS ONLY LIKE THIS...

BUT EVEN THOUGH IT IS ONLY LIKE THIS...
...DOES IT MAKE ME FULL OF ENERGY?
WHY...
WAH ...
Everyone, come over and eat!
This is great!
Nanami
I CAN'T DO IT! SHE IS STILL VERY ANNOYING!
Ah, she's energetic but she is still clumsy as usual
Trip

bounce bounce...
Wah, Nomura! Go pick it up
YEAH YEAH
The ball...ah, the ball...ah
AND ANYWAY!
WHAT DOES KAISE-SENPAI MEAN BY THAT?
SINCE HE HAS ALREADY REJECTED HER, THEN HE DOES NOT HAVE TO BOTHER WITH HER ANYMORE!
He is still protect and her like that
The very annoying type
She likes to be jealous
IN ANY CASE, HE IS TAKING TOO MUCH CARE OF THAT WOMAN!
DON'T BE LIKE THIS!
I AM NOT DOING IT ON PURPOSE...
I WAS WATERING THE PLANTS WHEN I ONLY SPRAYED WATER ON SUMAGAI-SENPAI ACCIDENTALLY...
LOOK AT MY LONG-DISTANCE WATER-SHOOTING!
YOU USUALLY DON'T EVEN WATER THE PLANTS!
Wah! It is delicious!
PUSHU
!

Splash
Flush
Bii
?!
inflate
Silence
YIKES
...AH, KAISE-SENPAI...
...
...ALL OF YOU...
DIDN'T I FULFILL YOUR PROMISE ...?

...
YOU...YOU... CANNOT BULLY YOUR JUNIORS...!
Take to flight
Still dare to say that!!
ERR, ABOUT THAT
GLARE
...
They were very happy

Writer's note 5

I really like eating natto* ... I also do not know why I suddenly want to write about this topic ... Anyway, I like to eat natto! I especially like to eat natto together with eggs that are boiled in hot springs. In the past, I did not like it at first, but now, I am really addicted to the taste of natto. Also, stewed natto and hiziki (my grandmother's home cooking) are also very delicious. Recently, there have been a lot of different flavors of natto being sold, and that makes me very happy. For example, there are natto which are kimchi-flavored, shiitake mushroom flavored, miso-flavored and daikon-flavored (by adding the sauce for that flavor) ... etc. Every flavor is quite delicious! (I have tried all of them) From disliking natto to becoming so happy when eating natto ... I suddenly have a strange sense of self-confidence ... In the future, no matter how poor I become, as long as I have natto, eggs and milk, I will be able to live on!

*Translator's note: Natto is a traditional Japanese food made from soybeans fermented with Bacillus subtilis. Hiziki is a brown sea vegetable growing wild on rocky coastlines around Japan, Korea and China. Kimchi is a traditional Korean pickled dish made of vegetables with varied seasonings. The Shiitake (Lentinula edodes) is an edible mushroom native to East Asia, and is therefore included in the dishes of many Asian countries. Miso is a traditional Japanese seasoning produced by fermenting rice, barley and/or soybeans to form a thick paste. Daikon is the Japanese name for a mild-flavored very large, white, East Asian radish.

Today is a wonderful day with sunny weather!
Good morning everyone!
let us begin the ball games competition!
Now together with the planes and the wings they glide upon,
Paper Planes (Low Budget)
Flying everywhere!
Oh, oh!

WAH~ SUMAGAI IS SO HYPED UP!
SHE IS NOMURA'S GIRLFRIEND! OF COURSE SHE ATTRACTS PEOPLE'S ATTENTION
Even though she is usually a Damare sheep
THAT'S NOT TRUE. I HEARD THAT IT IS ONLY AN UNREQUITED LOVE FOR NOMURA
WHAT?
IS IT OKAY FOR YOU NOT TO WEAR A
YEAH, IT IS OKAY
I WANT TO MAKE A FINAL SHOWDOWN...
...AS SUMAGAI MIRITA!
OH
In that case, My perseverance as an actor must not lose as well
Who exactly likes who
step

First, let us begin with the volleyball competition!
Oh. Let's begin.
I WANT TO CONFIRM ONE THING WITH YOU OVER HERE.
They are really so fun to play with!
So fun!
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
Waa-aaah
Fiuu
There are balloons
KAISE, AREN'T WE SUPPOSED TO BE...
ENEMIES WITH EACH OTHER?

Then, let the competition...
begin!

Blue Sky Playground

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Special Thanks to Doki & katana1765

Brought to you by: Estrella

Note 6 WANT TO BECOME A MANGAKA!! ~Read song lyrics in detail~

All of you probably read the song lyrics only when you have just bought a new CD to listen to, right? I suggest that all of you should choose a favorite song of yours, and read the song lyrics more frequently. Reading the lyrics written by professional musicians and song-writers can help to train up your sensitivity towards words. This ability will come in useful when you need to decide what the main character should say. I feel that in order to come up with a new work, imagination to some extent is needed, like imagining yourself to be a poet in your mind. Err . This can be seen as something like self-hypnosis. In conclusion, by reading more, you will be able to improve your ability to come up with a new work unconsciously.

(Continued in 7)

<sfx: Snap>
I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THE COMPETITION!
WE WON'T EVEN BE COMPETING AT THE SAME TIME.
SINCE I'LL BE PLAYING TABLE TENNIS, WHILE YOU'RE PLAYING BASKETBALL.
Why would we be enemies?
Huff
Huff
THEY'RE CONFIRMING THE FINAL STRATEGY...
THE BASKETBALL TEAM IS GATHERING TOGETHER!
Our class team
YOU ACTUALLY PRETENDED NOT TO KNOW...
NOMURA ...!
step
step

Grab
KAISE...! DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
?!
Cough cough
I'M TALKING ABOUT...
PULL
PULL
TH THIS?
WH...WHAT HAPPENED? NOMURA.
SUDDENLY.
WHAT IS "THIS"?
THIS MATTER!

...OH?
I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND.
NO... NOMURA, EVERYONE IS GATHERING...
They're already starting.
Eeek!
SINCE YOU'RE LIKE THIS...
I KNOW! STOP NAGGING!
...SORRY.
STARS
PULL
PULL
THEN, THERE'S NOTHING MUCH TO FIGHT ABOUT!

What happened to both of them...?
They seemed strange.
Class 3's Boys' Basketball Team Strategy Meeting
Peerina
What's Norman angry about?
So we have to do this at this place.

Honk
UDON
Urgh. Basketball terminology is so hard to remember
AH... GOOD MORNING!
AH...

SHE IS... THE AUNTIE FROM THAT UDON NOODLE SHOP!
Kaise, you're here again?
OH, ARE YOU ALL HAVING A SPORTS TOURNAMENT?
NO, IT'S A BALL GAMES COMPETITION
It's so nice to be young
Ah, I'm from the udon noodle shop nearby
SHE SEEMS TO HAVE FORGOTTEN THAT I WENT TO HER SHOP TO EAT NOODLES BEFORE...
Because that time she kept talking to Kaise
"YOU SHOULD, LIKE LAST TIME..
GET A GIRLFRIEND, AND COME TOGETHER TO EAT NOODLES..."
Gasp
AH!
THIS PERSON ...
PROBABLY KNOWS A LOT..
GIRL-FRIEND!
ABOUT KAISE'S..
Con clu sion
I STILL WANT TO KNOW!
ba-thump
Err err err err....
I SHALL TRY ASKING!
MAY I ASK...!
I MUST BE DE-TER-MINED!
I WANT TO KNOW!
BUT I'M AFRAID
I WANT TO KNOW!
BUT I'M AFRAID
I WANT TO KNOW!
BUT I'M AFRAID
I WANT TO KNOW!
BUT I'M AFRAID

prattle prattle
I want to listen to more!
Yamada as an inquisitive housewife
ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION I GOT WHEN I WAS EAVESDROPPING AT THE SIDE
YEAH! SHE WAS A VERY CUTE GIRL!
Yamada who has asked the question so easily
Then, what is my determination for ??
OH... CLASSMATE SHUKAN USED TO HAVE A GIRLFRIEND?
THEY WENT TO THE UDON NOODLE SHOP TOGETHER TWICE
AND THEN
JUST LIKE WHAT I IMAGINED
THE RELATIONSHIP BEGAN IN THE AUTUMN OF THE THIRD YEAR IN MIDDLE SCHOOL. THE GIRL'S HAIR WAS CURLY AT THE ENDS
SO THAT IS HOW IT WAS ...
Sigh
It is something like that
BOTH OF THEM WERE VERY INNOCENT AND INEXPERIENCED IN THEIR RELATIONSHIP ..

Writer's note 7

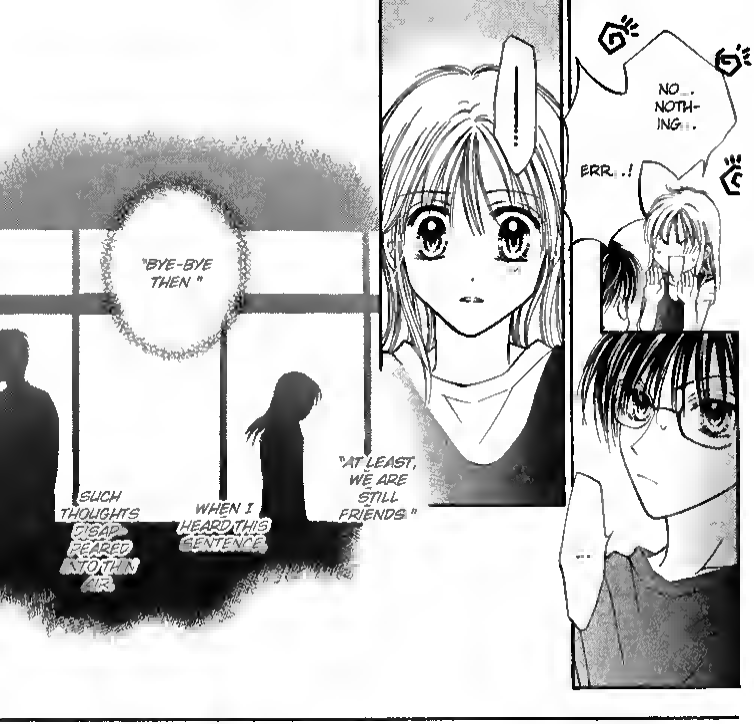
It is really fun to walk in the swimming pool

Walking in water is becoming more and more popular recently. It is really great! It is not only good for the body, it also helps psychologically! Usually, I would stay at home to work, so I always try to find opportunities to go to the swimming pool for exercise @ once I start drawing the drafts, I will have no chance to do so...) But swimming takes too much toll on me, once I get home I will be unable to work (because I go straight to sleep). The amount of exercise from walking in water is just right. I walk for 60 to 90 minutes every time, thinking about stuff while slowly walking in the water. After the exercise, somehow I feel that life is really wonderful ~ Sometimes, I may even think of new ideas for my drafts. I always cycle to and from the swimming pool, so in fact the amount of exercise I do is still quite a lot. I will always feel especially tired on that day every time I go to the swimming pool. But I still enjoy going there!

HE HE FELL ASLEEP ...
HE'S SLEEP-ING
drowsily
drowsily
HE'S ASLEEP, HE'S ASLEEP!
The only desire in the hearts of these girls is ...
Inhale
That fellow
chatter
chatter
chatter
WANT...WANT TO TAKE OFF HIS GLASSES AND SEE WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE!
Stare
Stare

Aside
IF...
IF WE TAKE OFF HIS GLASSES, HE WILL DEFINITELY LOOK EVEN MORE HANDSOME...
WHY IS KAISE ABLE TO SLEEP EVEN IN SUCH A PLACE?
Boys
THE MID-TERM EXAMINATIONS ARE COMING. HE MUST HAVE BEEN BURNING THE MIDNIGHT OIL STUDYING!
SNAP
IT IS ALWAYS IN TIMES LIKE THESE THAT WE DON'T DARE TO TAKE ACTION
The girls are simply too
I DON'T WANT TO!
YOU... YOU GO TAKE THEM!
Well
WELL THEN! WE SHALL USE THE FINGER GUESSING GAME TO DECIDE FAIRLY!
CAN IT RHYME?
Like the group of mice going to bell the scary cat!
OOH...
USE FINGER-GUESSING—
THEN EVERYONE GET READY—
Here
OK!
Z

SUMAGA! LIKES KAISE, DOESN'T SHE?
Furthermore Namura has an one-sided crush on her
SHH! JUST BE QUIET NOW!
Lost in prayer guessing
YES
DON'T WAKE HIM UP!
BE CAREFUL!
MY FINGERS..
ARE SO CLOSE TO HIS EYELASHES..
I AM SO NERVOUS THAT MY FINGERS ARE NUMB
URGH.. URGH URGH..
ONE MORE TIME!
THE KAISE HIDDEN UNDERNEATH THE GLASSES!
I REALLY WANT TO SEE JUST ONCE
BUT,
HEY..
Stacked
picks
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

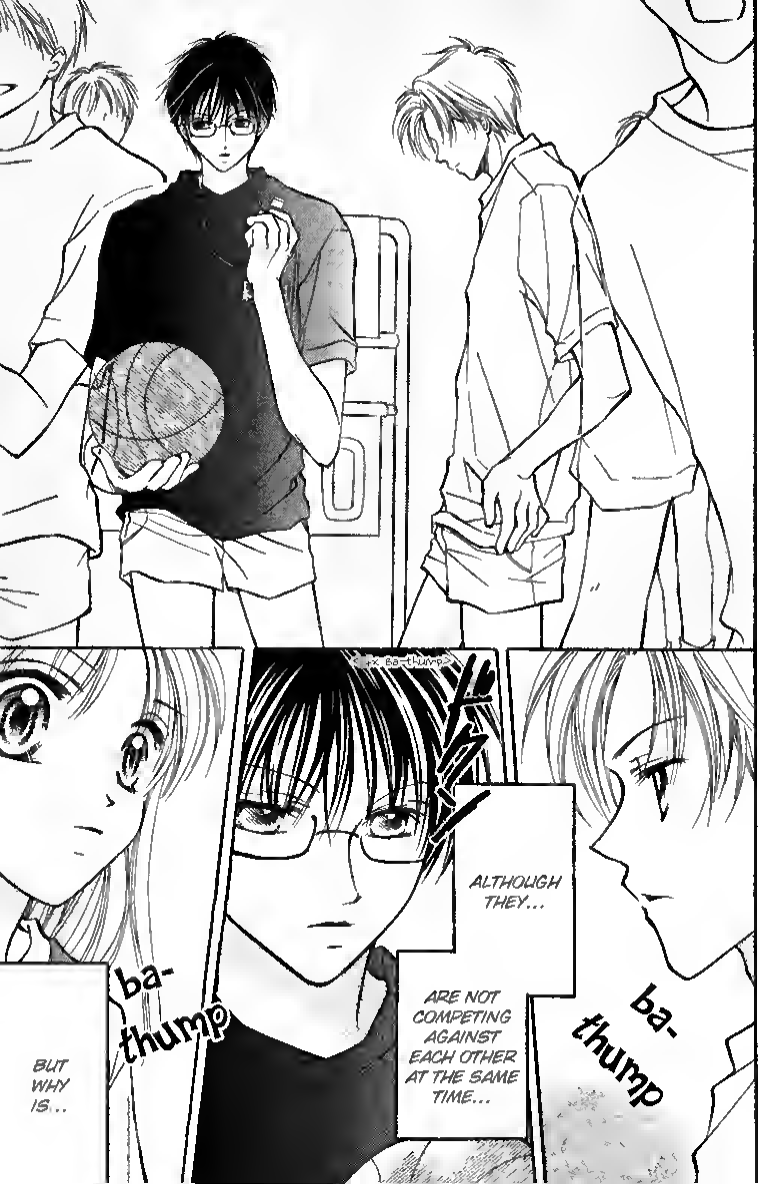

NO_. NOTHING.
ERR..!
"BYE-BYE THEN"
"AT LEAST, WE ARE STILL FRIENDS."
...
SUCH THOUGHTS DISAPPEARED FROM IN MY MIND.
WHEN I HEARD THIS SENTENCE

SO...
I STILL WANT TO CONTINUE THE FEELING OF "LIKING HIM"
EVEN IF IT IS ONLY A ONE-SIDED LOVE ON MY PART...

BECAUSE I WANT TO...
DON'T GIVE UP!
KNOW MORE ABOUT KAISE...!

OH!
A wonderful excuse!
rattle
COMING!
KAISE! IT'S YOUR TURN TO BECOME THE REFEREE FOR BASKETBALL!
EVEN SO, I SHOULDN'T HAVE TRIED TO STEAL HIS GLASSES
Further more, it was a repeated mistake
IS HE ANGRY..?

Splat.
THE RULES SET DOWN FOR THE BOYS' BASKETBALL COMPETITION ARE REALLY WEIRD.
EVERYONE'S FACES HAVE BECOME SO DIRTY AND FUNNY.
Heh!
※ This rule only applies to Boys. (It is too pitiful for the girls to have their faces drawn, so they are exempted from this rule.)
A MARK WILL HAVE TO BE DRAWN ON THEIR FACES USING CALLIGRAPHY BRUSHES.
FOR EVERY MISTAKE THEY MAKE.
Uriah
NEXT, IN THE SECOND ROUND OF THE MEN'S BASKETBALL COMPETITION, CLASS 3 WILL PLAY AGAINST CLASS 7.
Ding Dong Ding
HER VOICE SOUNDS SO NICE
Trainee
Broadcasting expert
HEY, HEY, YOU ARE STILL DAYDREAMING!
Surprised
HERE THEY COME!
!

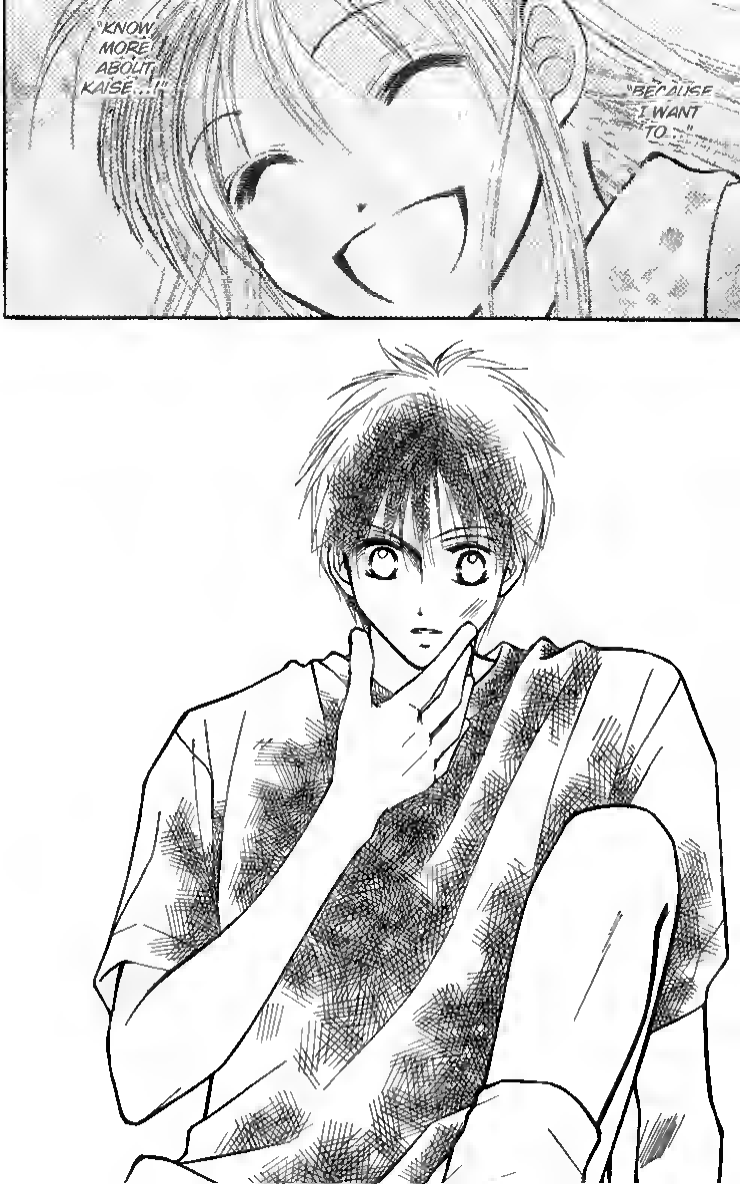

ba-thump
ba-thump
ba-thump
ALTHOUGH THEY...
ARE NOT COMPETING AGAINST EACH OTHER AT THE SAME TIME...
BUT WHY IS..

...I RE-MEMBER NOW.
IN THE THIRD YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL, THERE WAS A GIRL WHO WAS ALWAYS WITH YOU
SHE HAD LONG HAIR, A VERY PETITE AND OBEDIENT GIRL
NOMURA, THE MATCH IS BEGIN-NING
WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF A MATCH!
BUT IT IS MY FIRST TIME HEARING THAT YOU WENT OUT WITH THAT GIRL BEFORE.
What are they talking about?!!
HMPH!
...THE AT-MOSPHERE WHERE THEY ARE...
SO TENSE...

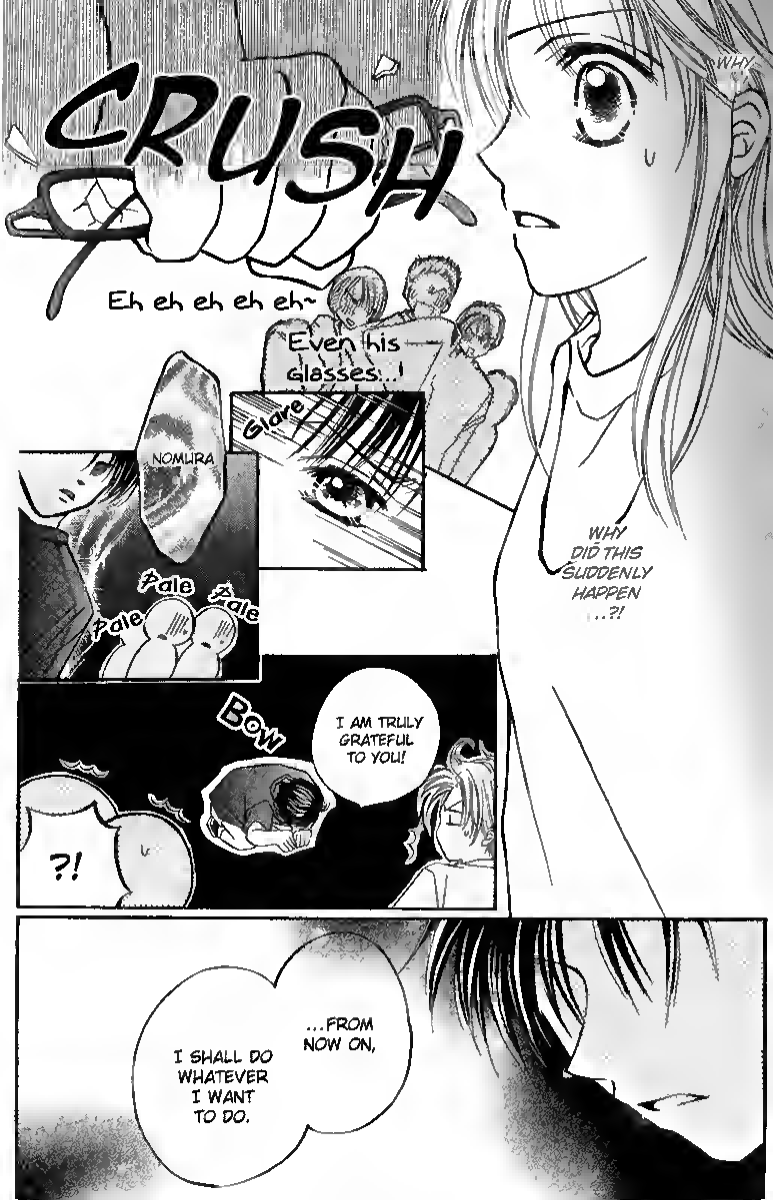
...
MOST LIKELY, THAT GIRL WAS BEING OSTRACIZED BY THE OTHER GIRLS.
THAT'S WHY YOUR RELATIONSHIP ENDED SO QUICKLY, RIGHT?
AND THEN?
grab
YOU'RE AFRAID OF MAKING THE SAME MISTAKE AGAIN.
THAT'S WHY YOU NEVER TAKE THE INITIATIVE!
DO YOU THINK THAT BY DOING THAT...

YOU WILL BE ABLE TO...
YOU WILL BE ABLE TO PROTECT HER...?
MAKE THIS CLEAR! DON'T GROUP HER TOGETHER WITH THOSE WEAK AND HELPLESS GIRLS!

PUNCH
THUD
AH!
WH... WHAT...
"BE-CAUSE..."


"KNOW MORE ABOUT KAISE..."
"BECAUSE I WANT TO..."

Quickly
ERR. . KAISE, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
KAISE...!
PUNCH
きゃあああ
!
<SAK KYOSAI>


CRUSH
Eh eh eh eh eh~
Even his glasses...!
Glare
NOMURA
Pale
Pale
Pale
Bow
I AM TRULY GRATEFUL TO YOU!
?!
WHY
WHY DID THIS SUDDENLY HAPPEN ...?!
...FROM NOW ON,
I SHALL DO WHATEVER I WANT TO DO.

AH...
NOW, I AM FEEL-ING
KAISE...?
LESS BUR-DENED IN MY HEART.

Blue Sky Playground

By: Mota Kurasawa

Volume 03 Chapter 20

Scanner: Littlepinkrose12
Translator: Kyrelia
Proofreader: Shekyl
Editor: Lat
Cleaner: hkgaines

Brought to you by: Estheticus

Note 7 I WANT TO BECOME A MANGAKA!!
~Ah, there is no more space for me to write~

I seemed to have written a lot of nonsense... Some very talented people may say, "Don't be foolish! Drawing manga depends on your talent!" ... I agree ... but I feel that "talent" can also come from practice. I have always held this notion in my mind, as I persevere on to be a mangaka. I really hope the culture of "manga" can continue on, so I wanted to share some tips of my own with everyone ... Err... I seemed to have diverted from the topic even further. Sorry, sorry ... This will be continued in the omake at the end of this volume.

chatter
Although I don't get what is going on
SO HANDSOME..
Ha ha ha
THIS IS YOUTH
TO CRUSH YOUR OWN GLASSES
So bright shining
chatter
WAH!
IT SEEMS THAT THINGS ARE NOT THAT SIMPLE.
HMPH. .
A PERSON LIKE YOU, WHO WALLOWS IN THE MISERY OF THE PAST, AND IN THE END, DOESN'T DARE TO DO ANYTHING
NOW, YOU DEFINITELY STILL DON'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO SAY YOUR TRUE FEELINGS!
ANYWAY, YOU...
I LIKE SUMAGAI.

I LIKE SUMAGAI!
I LIKE HER!
EH?
chatter

YOU ACTUALLY SAID IT SO STRAIGHT-FORWARDLY.
WHAT?
Oh. It's a confession!
BUT ...
Eh... It must be a lie. (SOBS)
"I DON'T LIKE YOU."
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?
IN ORDER TO PROTECT ME?
IN ORDER TO PROTECT SUMAGA!
IT SEEMS LIKE KAISE HAS BEEN HOLDING HIMSELF BACK.
No!
SO BOTH OF THEM HAVE MUTUAL FEELINGS FOR EACH OTHER!
That's how it is!
There's no need to argue anymore!
NOW, WE HAVE TO ASK EVERYONE PRESENT!

What?
I am a fan of Nonura so it is okay for me
Okay!
Kaise's fans
PEOPLE WHO "APPROVE" OF THIS COUPLE,
PLEASE THROW PAPER AIRPLANES OF BLESSINGS TOWARDS THEM!
Paper airplane
Come here and take!
The paper airplanes used at the opening ceremony of the ball games competition (Reusina)
Waah
But
Scattered -
Hmm
SOMEHOW, IT DOESN'T SEEM ENTHUSIASTIC ENOUGH
Wishes to hype up the atmos where in any situation
KAISE!..
I...
I WORRIED OVER IT FOR SO LONG . CRIED OVER IT FOR SO LONG...
THERE IS ACTUALLY NO NEED FOR EVERYBODY'S APPROVAL, RIGHT?
Team in charge of the assembling meeting for basketball
THUD
THUD
I AM SO BORED
Grab
AH! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

EH?
STROKE
squeak
tap
tap
tap
...AH?
tremble
tremble
tremble
tremble
KAISE IS A BIG FOOL!

WHAT PROTEC-TION...
I DON'T EVEN WANT THAT...
turn
THOSE OF YOU WHO LIKE KAISE, AND THEREFORE, CANNOT FOR-GIVE ME...
ATTACK ME!
ATTACK ME NOW!

I WILL DEFINITELY NOT LOSE!
WE WILL NOT HOLD OURSELVES BACK!
DEFEND!
RUSTLE
Ink Attack!
TREE BRANCHES!
THRUST
THRUST
THRUST
IT'S NOT PAINFUL AT ALL!
BECAUSE MY ADRENALINE LEVEL IS VERY HIGH NOW!
EVEN IF I AM BEING KICKED
EVEN IF I AM BEING HIT
REALLY ?
IS IT REALLY OKAY?
Kaisei's agitated fans
IN THAT CASE
...I WILL STILL ...!

EVEN IF THERE ARE A HUNDRED ASSASSINS...
NO MATTER HOW OTHERS MAY CRITICIZE ME...
Assa assassins?
Is that referring to us?
I WILL NOT CHANGE, I WILL STILL LIKE KAISE!
MI... MIRITA ...
You are too vigorous!
HERE, A TOWEL FOR YOU!
Pass!

Writer's note 7

The last vertical column! Oh oh... "Blue Sky Playground" is full of commemorative significance, and the last space is used just like this...

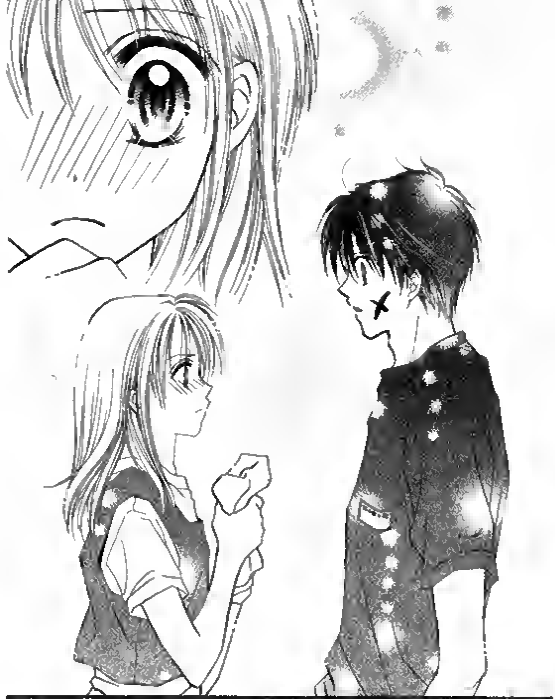
(I am really a fool...)

I still have not changed my foolish nature... In conclusion, I really have to thank a lot of people~ To everyone, please continue writing letters to me! Even though I can only reply using photocopied drafts, my reply letters are all very significant. So I hope everyone can continue to support me. (It is significant, but it does not have much content (laugh))

Please send letters to the address below...

〒101-8050
東京都千代田区
一ツ橋 2-5-10
集英社マーガレット
倉沢モタ

Please write more letters to me~



AH!
THROW!
BAM

AH...
TSK,
I MISSED BY A BIT.
I ALSO STILL HAVE
THE WILL TO PROTECT SUMAGAI MIRITA!

I WILL DEFI-NITELY ...
BRING HAPPINESS TO YOU.
NOMURA'S WORDS ..
MAKE ME VERY HAPPY.
...I ALSO WISH ...
TO OBTAIN HAPPI-NESS.

EVEN THOUGH I AM HAPPY... EVEN THOUGH IT IS A PITY...
..
HOWEVER,
I WANT TO SEEK HAPPI-NESS BY MYSELF.
...BESIDE THE PERSON I LIKE...!
THAT IS WHY... I AM SORRY..
SORRY
..
...
NOMURA!

I WILL TREAT THIS AS MY LAST OPPORTUNITY.
NO MATTER HOW DIFFICULT IT IS, I'VE COME TO UNDERSTAND
THIS TIME I WILL DEFINITELY ...
...NOT LET HER CRY AGAIN!

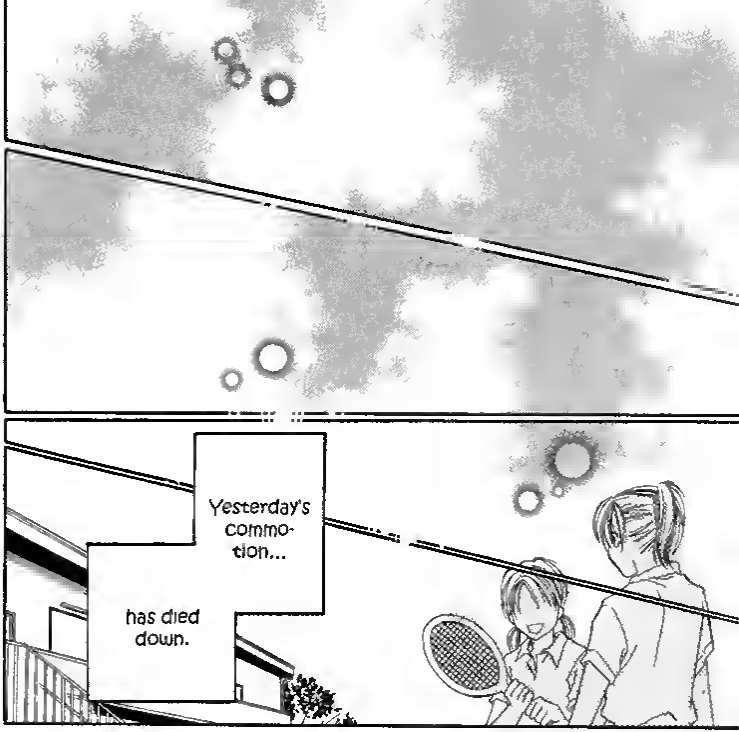
... HMPH,
IS THAT SO?
... KAISE. .
grab
disapproval
WHO WANTS ...
TO LET YOU TAKE OVER ...
BUT IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE AS FOOLISH AS YOU WERE AGAIN, THEN I'LL TAKE THIS FROM YOU!

KISS!
right on
the mark
SMIRK
YOU...
WHAT HAP-PENED?

A FAREWELL GIFT TO YOU!
I'LL LET YOU OFF LIGHTLY THIS TIME!
FAREWELL ...?
Ahhhhh! Did you see that?
ALL RIGHT!
Takakura appears again!
HAS EVERYONE APPROVED OF THIS COUPLE YET?
chatter
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
swish
WE DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO COMPLAIN ABOUT ANYMORE
EVEN NOMURA HAS APPROVED OF IT
Furthermore using that method
THIS IS SOMETHING WORTH CONGRATULATING!

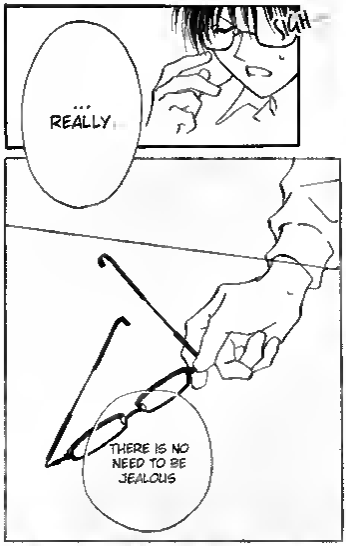
In the vast...
blue sky...

There are countless paper airplanes flying
I WILL NEVER EVER FORGET THIS SCENE...

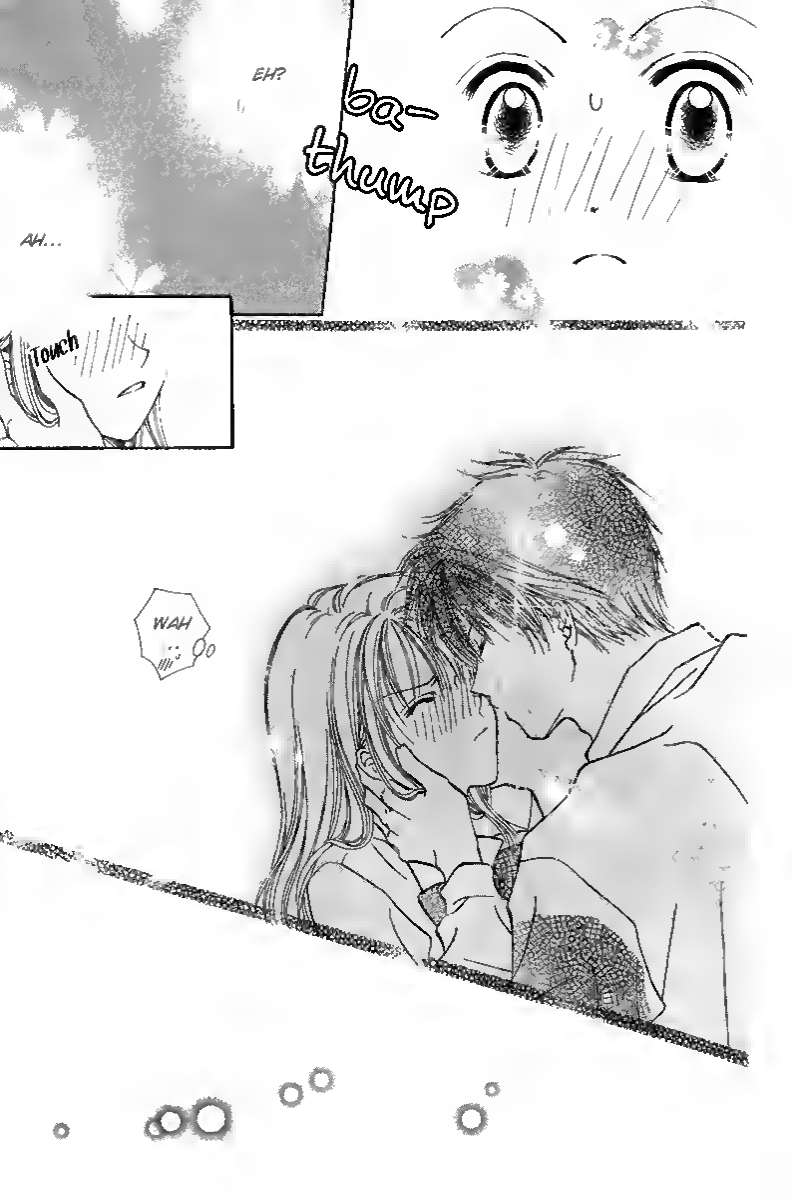

Yesterday's commo-tion...
has died down.

TODAY,
WE'RE HERE TOGETHER...
WITH SILENCE IN THE AIR.

Thud
AH, THESE ARE THE PAIR OF GLASSES THAT I WORE WHEN I WAS IN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
BEFORE THE NEW PAIR OF GLASSES ARE READY, I HAVE TO...
YOUR GLASSES ARE ALREADY REPAIRED?
That was very fast!
YOUR...
WE HAVE ALREADY BEEN SILENT FOR HALF AN HOUR.
FIND A TOPIC TO TALK ABOUT!
BUT... BUT...
BUT, BUT, BUT...
I AM STILL...
WAS THAT THE TIME WHEN YOU HAD A GIRL-FRIEND?
JUNIOR HIGH!
YIKES
HMM...
ABOUT YOUR EX-GIRL-FRIEND
UNNECESSARY QUESTION
HOW WAS
YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HER LAST TIME...?
A BIT BOTHERED
...I VALUED HER SO MUCH.
IN THE END, I DID NOT EVEN DARE TO KISS HER.



*Translator's note: In Chinese 吃醋 means 'to be jealous' and its literal translation is 'to eat vinegar'


EH?
ba-
thump
AH...
Touch
WAH

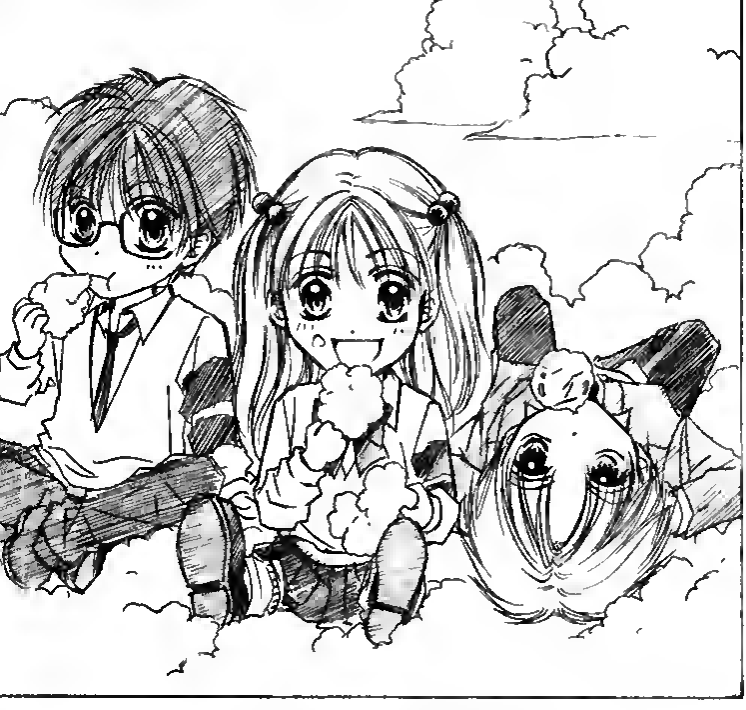
THIS POSITION SEEMS...
...ERR... KAISE...
A BIT OFF, RIGHT...?
I'm actually talking about this...
...
BE-CAUSE...
(a rather subtle position)
At this position
BECAUSE OF THAT YESTER-DAY...
THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T WANT TO DO IT DIRECTLY SO SOON!
OH
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT...
HE COULD BE SO CUTE...

Sfx, Bam
HAVE YOU FINISHED WITH YOUR PERVERTED ACTIONS?
...
Per Not t
THUD
THUD
EHP
SO GET OUT QUICKLY!
...NOT YET!
... HMPH! THAT'S FINE WITH ME...

ALTHOUGH I GAVE IN TO YOU TEMPORARILY YESTERDAY,
I MAY REVERSE THE SITUATION TODAY
Even if this series is completed our lives will not end here Right?
But what he said is right
YOU HAVE TO BE MORE CAREFUL!
WHAT OUR FUTURE WILL BE LIKE...
DEPENDS ON OUR OWN DILIGENCE...
SLAM
MIRITA!
I ALSO JOINED THE DRAMA (SIMPLIFIED) CLUB!
SUMAGAI!
CLUB ACTIVITIES!
slam

Does this costume look nice on me?
Minita
Enough! Get out.
I'm going, too... to cause trouble for you all there...
Hey! Sumaga! Hurry up!
grumble
grumble
Oh.
Shine
THERE SEEMS TO BE NO TIME FOR A BREAK!
LET'S GO!

FROM NOW ON,
NO MATTER WHEN...
YOUTH ...
IS ALWAYS ACTIVE!
<END>



The theme for this picture is, "Three of them eating clouds happily"
Ha ha ha... This is really heart-warming

Omake

The manga is finally finished! Well done! Hmm... In other words, this is the start of the omake! The picture at the top was originally drawn with pencil, but I was worried over how it would turn out after printing (I have no idea how the lines will look...) Never mind, there is no use worrying over such a thing. We'd better get started on the main theme~

Next Go!!

WANT TO BECOME A MANGAKA!!

There is no more space for me to continue writing, so I moved it here instead. Some of the readers may have started thinking, "Please... You haven't finished...?" Err... Actually, I also know this myself... If you have any opinions on what I write on my manga volumes (It is okay even if it is a hurtful remark), please feel free to write to me! There is still much I can learn.

"To be a mangaka (or rather to be a good mangaka), what should I do?" After saying so much, I should make a summary of what I have written up till here. I picked out some key points, hope they will be of some help to you all.

- Reduce the time you spend watching television, spend more time thinking alone. (For example, things that happened in school, etc, it does not have to be profound.)
- Be more attentive in listening to others. (You can derive many ideas for your stories.)
- Buy a guide on drawing human body positions. (You should be able to find it in the Arts and Design section of a large bookstore. It should cost around 2000 yen per book.) After that, you have to practice very hard on drawing human bodies. (You must understand that it is not fun at all.)
- Learn, research more on, "cute things, things that girls like," and merge it with your manga. I am actually not very trendy... Even after researching so much, I only improved a little. But, it is still better than not knowing at all! And I get to buy many magazines that young girls like to read, really enjoyable.

Then, this is the end of this section! We will meet again next time.

...Well, there is actually nothing that terrible. (Then, what are you doing...?) I suddenly wanted to know, "which prefecture's readers sent the most letters?"

...Actually, ever since I debuted as a mangaka, I've always classified my readers' letters according to their prefectures. (What a strange person...) In the end, I realized... there are altogether 11 prefectures from which I have never received a single letter! Somehow, I feel ...a bit shocked ...and lonely ...I even began to have extreme thoughts ...The letters I received from readers .. is it really very little...?

Am I not very popular...? Ah, no... it is actually still okay (laugh) ...That is why! Readers from (from north to south) Aomori, Yamagata, Miyagi, Toyama, Nagano, Fukui, Shiga, Yamaguchi, Kumamoto, Miyazaki, Okinawa! Please hurry and send letters to me! If you send now, there is still a chance of you getting the title, "the first in XX prefecture to send a letter to Mota"! (I think nobody wants it .) Anyway, please give me your guidance.

Everybody, please come and take a look! Mota's drafts uncovered section

Ah, hello to everyone. This section... is me being thick-skinned and revealing my drafts... The four drafts shown here are all scenes from "Blue Sky Playground" Chapter 1! Isn't it full of memories? (Are you stupid...?) Actually, every time I finish drawing the manuscript, I will throw away the drafts. I have no idea why these few pages are still being kept... It is really a mystery... Exactly why?

Are you all shocked after seeing these? My drafts are sketched so messily... When I first knew about it, I was actually shocked myself (laugh). Everywhere the figures look like this ⊠ (diagram)... It is impossible to distinguish which is Mirita, which are the twins... The only way of identifying the figures is through the circles on their foreheads which have Mirita, Kaise, Nomura, etc. written in them. Ever since my works started being published, my drafts have always been like this. When I was still drawing one-shots, my drafts were all very detailed! (No matter how detailed your drafts are, it's no use... (laugh)) But now they have become like this...

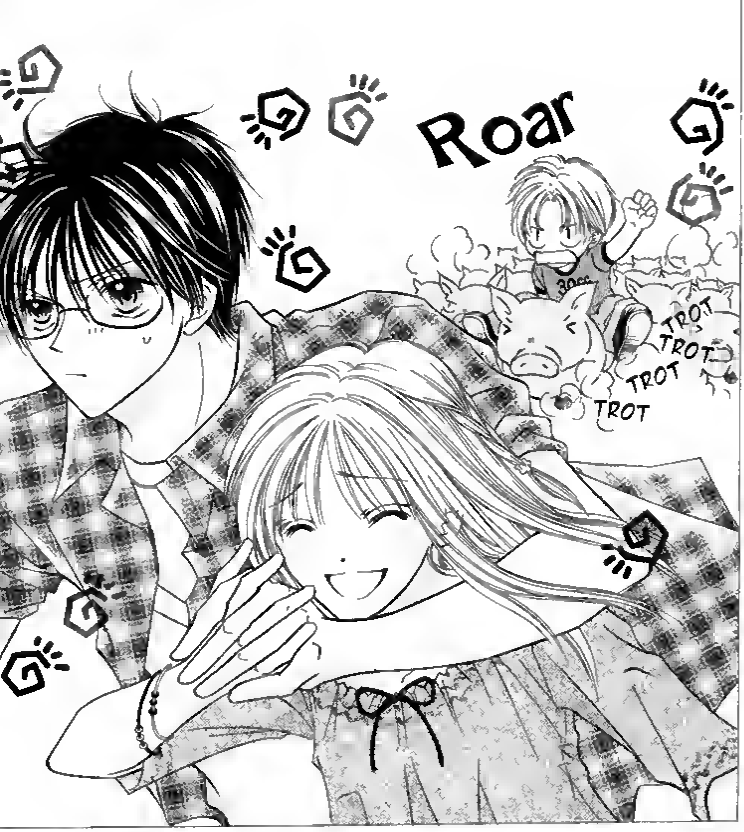
Actually, I have always wanted to see how other people's drafts are like. After publishing my works on Margaret for so long, I have actually never made friends with the other mangakas during these 3 years... Sob... The main reason is because I never participated in activities, such as the New Year's gathering... Another reason is because I'm too afraid to meet with strangers... But, next year I must go to gatherings! I really wish to make new friends! To all mangakas working for Margaret, please give me your guidance when that time comes...

My other wish is to become an assistant for others... I really wish to try it. Maybe some people may say... you cannot even submit your manuscripts on time, you still wish to become an assistant for other people? Hmm...but, I really will like to try rushing out manuscripts overnight at someone else's house... I would really like to see what other people's manuscripts look like. I also would like to feel the atmosphere when all the assistants are discussing together. If there is a chance, please let me try it...

Does everybody want to know? Popularity of the twins uncovered~

On this page, I shall reveal the comparison between the popularity of the twins, Kaise and Nomura~ The ratio of their popularities vary at different parts of the manga. Isn't it interesting? ~ At first, when this series just started, Kaise's popularity was at the top right from the start. Black hair, glasses, easily embarrassed, many readers fell for him just based on these three points! Nearly every reader who wrote to me was Kaise's fan... I was beginning to have doubts... on why I drew twins... But, this can't be helped, at the beginning there was no chance for Nomura to express himself... Sorry.. Nomura.. it's all my fault... In the middle, roughly halfway through the series, more Nomura fans appeared. So happy... (tears) As compared to Nomura, Kaise is actually very hard to draw... It is hard for him to have any actions... Especially near the end of the series, even I cannot help but to be biased towards Nomura... At the end, Nomura finally caught up, now there are about equal numbers of Kaise and Nomura's fans... Readers who originally liked Kaise also said, "Nomura seems so charming nowadays!" Some of them even lost their temper at Kaise, "Hurry up and understand your own feelings!"... (laugh) If this series continues, Nomura will most likely become more popular than Kaise. So nervous... Elder brother, you had a narrow escape~... Just to mention, the third most popular male character is classmate Yamada (laugh)! Congratulations!

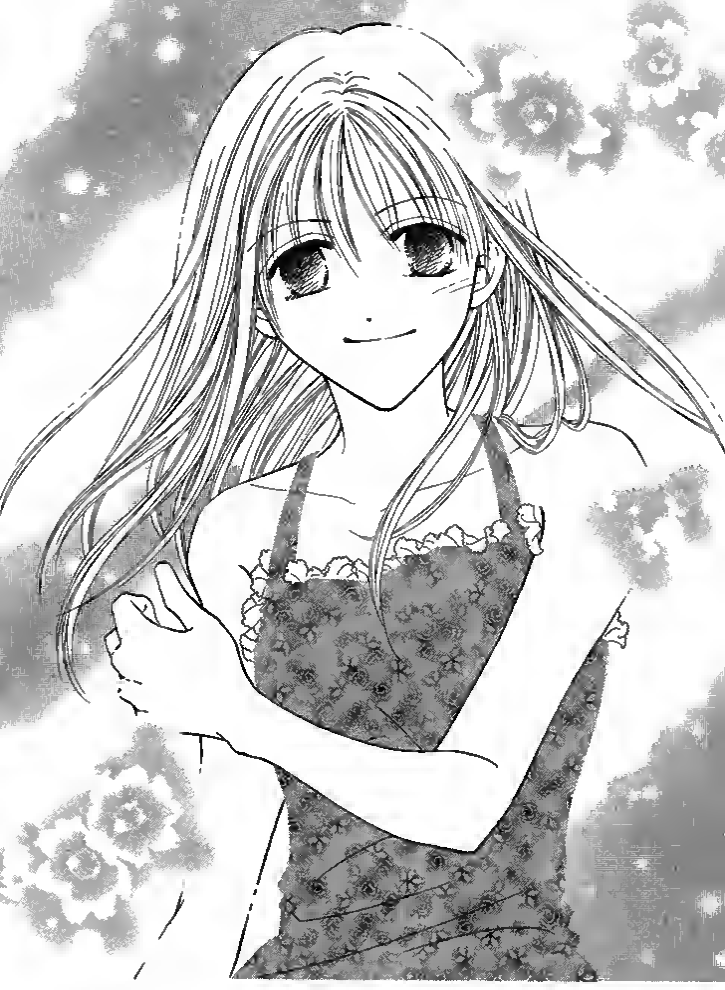
(There were no other male characters to choose from anyway...)



The theme for this picture, "A pair of lovers escaping from Nomura and pigs." (The meaning behind this is very vague.)

Mota Kurasawa in the Future

This is the end of "Blue Sky Playground". My next manga "Seishun Wa Koko da!" (English translation. "Youth is Right Here!"), will be published in Japan in Margaret's combined issue for March and April 2004. I changed my drawing style slightly... only slightly! It is now slightly more mature-looking. I also like my drawing style when I am drawing "Blue Sky~," so I will most likely continue with it. Of course, I will also like to listen to everyone's opinions, so please write to me! Also, this year I definitely will like to draw one-shots! (Oh... I seem so certain...) Please look forward to it~



This is the last page! I am really thankful to you all for reading up to here... after so many letters, and so many pictures, I am really happy!

Then, I wish to see you all again in my next manga! GOOD BYE!

'04.2.15.
Mota Kurasawa

Blue Sky Playground

By: Mota Kurasawa

Volume 03 Chapter 21

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HOW ARE YOU HOLDING UP??
I KNOW YOU ARE IN NEED OF A MANGA FIX, BUT
Whoa! Don't vaporize out of despair!
THERE AREN'T ANY NEW RELEASES
THERE IS STILL HOPE. IT'S NOT THAT ESTHETIQUE DOESN'T HAVE MANGA,
ESTHETIQUE JUST NEEDS MORE TRANSLATORS AND EDITORS TO WORK ON THEIR AWESOME PROJECTS.
What?! Then let's hurry up and recruit more staff!
Temporarily revived
I NEED NEW RELEASES TO SHOW OFF MY USUALLY SUAVE SELF!

Esthetique sure has... recruitment methods...
Sleeping Potential Esthetique Staff...
We need more editors and Japanese translators!
WAKE UP!
WE ARE A WONDERFUL GROUP OF SCANLATORS.
YOU WILL BE WORKING ON GREAT MANGA PROJECTS!
HA HA HA HA HA HA...
YOU FORCED ME TO TICKLE YOU INTO APPLYING!
A'RIGHT, A'RIGHT! I'LL DO IT! I'LL APPLY!
I'm so excited! Let's get to work!
Yay! More releases!
LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO PUT OUT LOTS OF RELEASES!